



PUTIN KICKS OFF HIS LATIN AMERICA TOUR WITH STOP IN CUBA

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KERRY PUSHES FOR ANSWER TO AFGHAN ELECTION DISASTER

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Saturday, July 12, 2014



Marchers held signs as they made their way to Department of Homeland Security offices, protesting immigration policies in El Paso, Texas. (AP Photo/El Paso Times, Victor Calzada)

US House Chairman: \$3.7B Border Request 'Too Much'

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — A key Republican said Friday that President Barack Obama's multibillion-dollar emergen-

cy request for the border is too big to get through the House, as a growing number of Democrats rejected policy changes. Republicans are demanding as

their price for approving any money. The developments indicated that Obama faces an uphill climb as he pushes Congress to approve \$3.7

billion to deal with tens of thousands of unaccompanied children who have been arriving at the U.S.-Mexico border from poor and gang-ridden Central

American nations. And they suggested that any final resolution is likely weeks away in Congress.

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Putin kicks off Latin America tour with Cuba stop

PETER ORSI

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin began a six-day Latin American tour aimed at boosting trade and ties in the region with a stop Friday in Cuba, a key Soviet ally during the Cold War that has backed Moscow in its dispute with the West over Ukraine. The visit focused on economic and commercial

Latina.

Russian news agency ITAR-TASS reported that Putin met with retired leader Fidel Castro for an hour and discussed topics ranging from international affairs and the world economy to Russian-Cuban relations. Cuban government website Cubadebate published photographs of Putin and current President Raul Castro participating in a

Earlier this year, Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez criticized U.S. and European Union sanctions on Russian individuals and pro-Russian Ukrainians that sought to pressure Moscow.

In March, Argentine President Cristina Fernandez accused the United States and Britain of having a double standard for criticizing a pro-Russian secession

space demilitarization, strengthening international information security and combating the glorification of Nazism," Putin told Prensa Latina.

Havana and Moscow have a shared history dating to the Cold War, when they were united by ideology and opposition to U.S. influence. However, they drifted apart somewhat in the 1990s following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

In December 2000, shortly after his first election, Putin visited the island and pledged to reinvigorate relations. Russia said in February that it was looking to expand its worldwide military presence, including asking permission for its navy ships to use ports in Cuba and elsewhere in Latin America. A Russian intelligence-gathering vessel has docked in Havana on multiple occasions in recent months. Moscow is nearing final ratification of a deal to forgive 90 percent of Cuba's Soviet-era debt, which totals more than \$35 billion. The remaining 10 percent will be spent by Havana on local investment projects selected with Russian input.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also visited Cuba three months ago. Putin was scheduled to travel on to Argentina and then begin on Sunday a four-day visit to Brazil for a presidential summit of the BRICS group of nations in Fortaleza. He planned to be in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday for the final World Cup match and ceremonial handover of host duties for soccer's marquee tournament, which takes place in Russia in 2018. □



Cuba's President Raul Castro, left, and Russia's President Vladimir Putin review troops during a welcoming ceremony at Revolution Palace in Havana, Cuba, Friday, July 11, 2014. Putin began a Latin American tour aimed at boosting trade and ties in the region with a stop Friday in Cuba, a key Soviet ally during the Cold War that has backed Moscow in its dispute with the West over Ukraine.
(AP Photo/Ismael Francisco, Cubadebate)

links as well as investment in projects including energy, transportation and civil aviation. Russia has cooperated with Cuba in recent years on offshore oil exploration, which the island hopes could ultimately yield a windfall.

"Today, cooperation with Latin American states is one of the key and promising lines of Russia's foreign policy," Putin told Cuban state news agency Prensa

ceremony at Havana's Memorial to the Soviet Internationalist Soldier. Amid the crisis in Ukraine, Cuba and some other nations in the region have been sympathetic to Russia's position on the conflict or at least not overtly critical. Articles in Cuban official newspapers tend to characterize it as a struggle against right-wing extremism that threatens ethnic Russians in Ukraine.

referendum held in Crimea while backing a similar vote in the disputed Falkland Islands on whether to remain a British overseas territory. Brazil was among several nations opposing Russia's possible exclusion from an upcoming G20 summit in Australia due to the crisis.

"We are grateful to South Americans for the support of our international initiatives, including outer

Report: Brazil cops search for Whelan in scalping scheme

STAN LEHMAN

Associated Press

SAO PAULO (AP) — Brazilian police are searching for a World Cup hospitality executive who has been declared a fugitive by officers investigating a ticket-scalping scheme.

Ray Whelan, an executive with the MATCH group, left the Copacabana Palace hotel in Rio de Janeiro through a service entrance about an hour before police arrived to re-arrest him on Thursday.

On Monday, Whelan was detained by police. He was released early the next day. Investigator Fabio Barucke said Friday that Whelan is considered a fugitive.

"We have security camera images of him exiting the hotel through a service door," Barucke said.

Police say Whelan was the main source of World Cup tickets that were sold to Algerian national Lamine Fofana, who they say is the biggest scalper for the sport's marquee tournament.

Under Brazilian law, selling tickets for sporting events above face value is illegal. But it's a crime that normally results in a fine of about \$225 and no prison sentence.

Barucke said he has formally requested that a judge consider the actions of Whelan and at least 11 others already arrested in the alleged scalping scheme of having formed a criminal conspiracy — which could result in significant jail time.

He said he expects his investigation to reveal that FIFA officials and authorities from Brazil's national football confederation also funneled tickets to known scalpers, in return for a share of the illegal profits. The MATCH group, which owns rights to sell World Cup hospitality packages, has denied any wrongdoing by Whelan, and said he was willing to cooperate with any investigation. In a statement on Friday, MATCH said it understood that Whelan's previous release did not restrict his movements, provided he stayed in Brazil.

"We do not believe that the term 'fugitive' is appropriate under the circumstances as he is presently with his lawyer," the statement said. □

Biggest security detail in Brazil history at final

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — More than 25,000 soldiers and police, the biggest security detail in Brazil's history, will be deployed around Rio de Janeiro to control Sunday's World Cup final between Germany and Argentina at the Maracana Stadium.

Jose Mariano Beltrane, security secretary for the state of Rio de Janeiro,

said there will be 9,300 Brazilian defense forces and at least 10,000 military police.

"This will be the biggest security operation that the city or country has ever seen," Beltrane said Friday. "We need to ensure that this event goes off like all the other games in the World Cup."

Asked about the large

numbers, Beltrane said they were justified and also pointed out the increase in tourists and the presence of heads of state at the final.

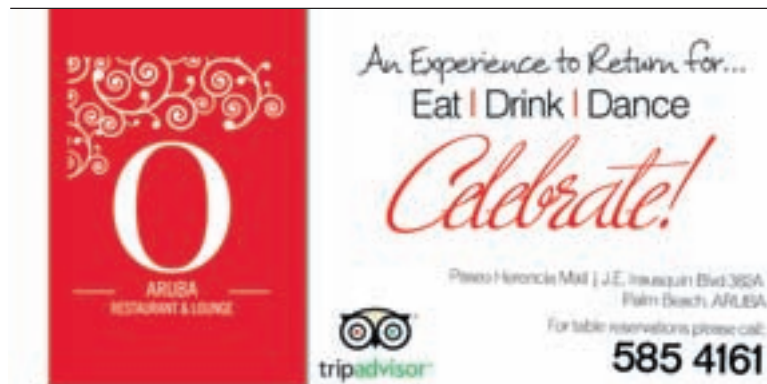
"I prefer to have a great number of men rather than to be caught by surprise," he said.

Beltrane gave no figures about levels of policing at previous matches at the

Maracana.

Beltrane said policing would be stepped up around the stadium and in the south zone of Rio, which includes the famed Copacabana and Ipanema beach areas. He also said access to the stadium area would be limited to people with tickets.

About 75,000 are expected to attend the final. □



Friends, lawyers deconstruct father's role in baby's death

RICHARD FAUSSET

ALAN BLINDER

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TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - On a Friday morning in March 2012, Leanna Harris entered a medical office here and underwent an ultrasound to get a glimpse of the baby she and her husband would name Cooper. The grainy, black-and-white footage was uploaded three days later to the YouTube account belonging to her husband, Justin Ross Harris, with a gleeful caption: "First video known as Cooper!"

This week, commenters posted accusations and bitter insults below the video. The authorities in Cobb County, Georgia, have charged Harris, 33, with felony murder after 22-month-old Cooper died in a hot car, and a prosecutor said last week that officials believed Harris had wished to be free of the burdens of parenting.

It is an accusation that some in Tuscaloosa, Harris' deeply conservative hometown, are having a hard time believing, even

as prosecutors and the Georgia police have detailed the bizarre, disturbing actions of Harris and his wife on June 18, the day he pulled his car into a shopping center parking lot and laid out the boy's lifeless body while screaming for help.

The authorities say that before Cooper's death, Harris had looked at an online video about animals dying in hot cars, as well as at a website called "Childfree," and that he had searched for information about how to survive in prison. Surveillance video shows that at one point, he returned to his car, where he had strapped Cooper in a car seat.

He did not tell the police about that visit.

Prosecutors have also said that while his son was trapped in the sweltering SUV, Harris was trading sexually explicit electronic messages with six women while he was working as a software engineer at a Home Depot corporate office. The company announced this week that he

was no longer employed there.

On the morning of June 18, according to Detective

Phil Stoddard of the Cobb County Police Department, Harris and his son watched cartoons in bed. They went to a Chick-fil-A store for breakfast, and then Harris

parked his car in his workplace parking lot. He went to work at 9:25 a.m., Stoddard said.



Justin Ross Harris, who is being charged with felony murder after his 22-month-old son died in a hot vehicle, at the Cobb County Magistrate Court in Marietta, Ga. A prosecutor said last week that officials believed Harris had wished to be free of the burdens of parenting.

(Kelly J. Huff/Pool via The New York Times)

left the office around 4:15 p.m. and said he noticed that he had left Cooper in the car as he was changing lanes. He stopped in a parking lot

Harris was denied bond and remains in a Cobb County jail. Leanna Harris, who recently hired a defense lawyer, has not been charged with a crime. □

US House Chairman: \$3.7B border request 'too much'

Continued from front

As House members gathered Friday morning to finish up legislative business for the week, Rep. Hal Rogers, chairman of the Appropriations Committee that controls spending, told reporters: "It's too much money. We don't need it."

Rogers, who had previously sounded open to the spending request for more immigration judges, State Department programs and other items, said that Obama's request includes

some spending to meet immediate needs, and his committee is working to sort that out.

But he said other aspects can be handled through Congress' regular spending bills, though no final action is likely on those until after the November congressional elections. And asked whether the House would approve the spending package as-is, he said "no."

White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest responded by saying that "we're open to working with Democrats and Republicans in

Congress to get this done." "The thing that I would point out, though, is that the president has moved quickly to be very clear about what specifically needs to be funded," Earnest said. "And we would like to see Republicans back up their rhetoric with the kind of urgent action that this situation merits." Rogers spoke shortly after the Congressional Hispanic Caucus convened a news conference to denounce efforts to attach legal changes to the spending measure that would result in returning the children

home more quickly to El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. Those countries account for the bulk of the more than 57,000 children who've arrived since October.

Republicans are demanding such changes, and White House officials also have indicated support, while House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid left the door open to them this week. But key Senate Democrats are opposed, and members of the all-Democratic Hispanic Caucus added

their strong objections Friday that sending the kids home quickly without immigration hearings could put them at risk.

"I don't know of a man or a woman in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus who is going to vote to undermine the rights of these children," said Rep. Luis Guterierrez, a Democrat. "It would be unconscionable for us to do that." Gutierrez said the lawmakers would make that same case directly to Obama in a meeting next week. And he pleaded for Democrats to stand firm. □



Texas shooting suspect collapses twice in court



Ronald Lee Haskell collapses as he appears in court on Friday, July 11, 2014, in Houston. Haskell, 33, is accused of killing his ex-wife's sister, Katie Stay, her husband and the children, ranging in age from 4 to 14, after binding and putting them face-down on the floor of their suburban Houston home.

(AP Photo/Houston Chronicle, Brett Coomer, Pool)

MICHAEL GRACZYK
Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — A man accused of killing six members of his ex-wife's family, including four children, after forcing his way into their suburban Houston home collapsed in court twice Friday as a prosecutor read out details of the crime.

A shackled Ronald Lee Haskell was standing before a state district judge during a probable cause hearing when he fell to the ground. Deputies lifted him to his feet and the 33-year-old Haskell stood for about another minute before collapsing again. He was then lifted into a chair and wheeled from the courtroom. "His face, he obviously lost blood in his face, and his knees buckled," said Haskell's attorney, Doug Durham. "He's scared. I think he has a limited mental capacity of what's going on."

Before the collapses, Haskell had acknowledged with a quiet "Yes" a couple of questions put to him by State District Judge Mark Kent Ellis about his legal rights. Ellis ordered Haskell held without bond.

"Maybe reality is finally setting in," said Tammy Thomas, the lead Harris County assistant district attorney in the case. "It's not television, this is not fiction. He is facing his consequences." Thomas said she expected a grand jury to issue a capital murder indictment as a result of Wednesday's fatal shootings of Stephen and Katie Stay and four of their children, ranging in age from 4 to 14.

Authorities have said Haskell was searching for his ex-wife, Katie Stay's sister, when he came to the home.

He tied up the family and put them face-down on

the floor before shooting each in the back of the head, according to investigators. The family had refused to say where Haskell could find his ex-wife.

The couple's 15-year-old daughter survived by playing dead after she was shot and told police Haskell was planning to shoot other relatives, according to court documents. She suffered a fractured skull when a bullet grazed her head but was able to call police and provide Haskell's identity and description.

In a statement Friday, Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital reported 15-year-old Cassidy Stay was discharged Friday "in good condition." The hospital said she's "expected to make a full recovery."

Police located Haskell's car and took him into custody after a three-hour standoff. Durham, appointed by the court to represent Haskell, said his focus will be Haskell's mental condition "and whether he was legally responsible at the time of his conduct."

"I think the evidence is going to show ... he is a troubled individual and he has a history of mental illness," Durham said. "Unfortunately, the delivery of the health care has failed in this system." Thomas said that strategy was not surprising, "because there aren't many explanations otherwise for him to grasp." But she said the probable cause in the case showed a "determined effort involved, the planning, the conscious decisions."

She said she would present evidence to a grand jury to seek a capital murder indictment and a decision on the death penalty would be made later by elected District Attorney Devon Anderson. □

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Ex-Bush lawyer convicted of trying to kill wife



John Michael Farren of New Canaan, Conn, is arraigned in state Superior Court in Norwalk, Conn. Farren, former White House lawyer in both Bush administrations was convicted Friday, July 11, 2014, of attempted murder and other charges in the beating of his wife at their Connecticut home four years ago.

(AP Photo/Kerry Sherck)

STAMFORD, Connecticut (AP) — A former White House lawyer in both Bush administrations was convicted Friday of attempted murder and other charges in the beating of his wife four years ago.

John Michael Farren, 61, was allowed to sit out his trial after he said he wouldn't be able to handle the stress of it. But he was in the courtroom Friday when the jury returned guilty verdicts on charges of attempted murder, first-degree assault and risk of injury to a child. Farren was general counsel at Xerox in 2007 when he was named deputy White House counsel during George W. Bush's second term.

He served as undersecretary for international trade in the Commerce Department under Bush's father, President George H.W. Bush. He also was deputy manager for the elder Bush's 1992 re-election campaign and deputy

director for his transition team in 1989.

Prosecutors allege Farren choked Mary Margaret Farren and beat her with a metal flashlight until she lost consciousness at their multimillion dollar home in Connecticut in January 2010.

She managed to flee the house with her two young daughters. The attack occurred two days after she served him with divorce papers, authorities say.

Farren disputed the seriousness of the charges. He also tried to use a mental health defense, but a judge didn't allow it. He faces up to 50 years in prison at his sentencing, set for Sept. 11.

The verdicts came on the second day of jury deliberations and followed three days of testimony this week. Mary Margaret Farren, who suffered broken bones in her jaw and cheek and other injuries from the attack, testified Monday.

"He was on top of me and

he was squeezing my neck, strangling me, and slamming my head ... into the

floor," she said. "He said, 'I'm killing you.'"

In a civil lawsuit, she won

a \$28.6 million judgment against her ex-husband for her injuries. □



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In senate, even bipartisan bills are felled by election maneuvering

JONATHAN WEISMAN

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WASHINGTON - Very little is happening in the Senate these days, but what passes for action has a lot to do with re-electing Democrats - or blocking their re-election.

Sen. Kay Hagan, D-N.C., saw her popular sportsmen's bill crash on the Senate floor Thursday when her Republican co-sponsors flipped, voting instead to filibuster and ensuring that it would die. Next up on the list of legislation with voter appeal but little chance of passage: a contraception access bill sponsored by Sen. Mark Udall, D-Colo., or a measure to end tax breaks for companies that send jobs overseas, offered by Sen. John Walsh, D-Mont.

The three Democrats are among the more vulnerable going into Election Day in November. All could use a late accomplishment on legislation drafted for important constituents in their state. Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, the majority



Sen. Kay Hagan (D-N.C.) speaks at a luncheon in Charlotte in June, 2014. Hagan had 26 Republican co-sponsors for legislation catering to sportsmen, but on July 10, all 26 voted to filibuster the bill unless they were allowed to amend it to ease access to firearms -- an example of how even bipartisan bills are being felled by election-season maneuvering.

(Erin Brethauer/The New York Times)

leader, has used his powers to selectively give them a platform and the megaphone of the Senate floor. But even that collides with a Republican Senate minority that is united to deny them any victories.

Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader, called the Senate floor "a campaign studio for one political party,"

and Democratic leaders are not exactly denying that they are giving their endangered senators precious floor time for political reasons. Sen. Charles E. Schumer, D-N.Y., said it was a time-honored bipartisan tactic.

The political undertones are not exactly subtle.

Hagan, who is running for re-election in a state that leans Republican in mid-term elections, was given a bill with red-state resonance. It would have prevented the Environmental Protection Agency from regulating lead ammunition and fishing tackle; required the federal government to keep lands open to hunting, fishing and target shooting; required federal land managers to include such activities in their land planning; and would have even allowed polar bear pelts harvested in Canada before a 2008 ban to be brought into the country.

"We actually put politics aside to get behind a bill that benefits tens of thousands of hunters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts," Hagan said on the Senate floor, extolling the bill's co-author, Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, and 25 other Senate Republican co-sponsors. "This kind of bipartisan support has been virtually unheard-of these days." □

New York carjacking suspect is charged with two murders

J. DAVID GOODMAN

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NEW YORK - The violent crimes piled up with a rapidity rarely seen in the bedroom communities of Staten Island: a gunpoint robbery ending in a killing; a second killing several miles away; and a carjacking of a Hummer sport utility vehicle nearby.

Then there was a confrontation on the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, with the Hummer driven straight at, and past, police officers who opened fire. Soon after, it resumed with a livery cab robbery at gunpoint. An attempt to take a second car failed only because the suspect did not know how to drive a stick shift, the police said.

When officers arrested Tyrell Brown late Tuesday night, walking near his Park Hill home, unarmed but clutching a wig, he had single-handedly conducted a violent two-day rampage across northern Staten Island, the authorities said Thursday.

The list of charges against Brown, 25, include two counts of murder, carjacking, robbery, and attempted assault on two officers of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Bridges and Tunnels agency, who tried to stop him at the bridge toll plaza early Monday. There, the police said, a gunman approached a pair of men on Britton Avenue sometime after 3 a.m., brandished a 9-mm handgun and demanded money. The men complied, but for reasons that were not clear, the police said, the suspect fatally shot one of the men, Kuwan Collins, in the face. The man who survived identified Brown as the gunman, the police said. Collins, of Voorhees Township, New Jersey, had been at his best friend's party that night, said his fiancée, Shirley Freeman, 32. "This is crazy, senseless," she said. "He didn't know Tyrell at all. He wasn't in the streets. He didn't even live here."

Less than two hours later and about six miles away in Mariners Harbor, the same gun was used to kill Devin Powell, 23, around 5:15 a.m. on Arlington Place, the authorities said. Brown was charged in that killing as well, though the motive remained unclear, the police said.

Shortly after 6 a.m., a man identified as Brown waved a gun at the driver of a black 2006 Hummer, who gave it up. At some point, the police said, Brown picked up Chineida Lopez, 24, a woman who shares his apartment on Park Hill Avenue, and the two drove around in Brooklyn.

By the time the Hummer was on its way back to Staten Island about 1 a.m. Monday, the police already believed that the person who had carjacked the Hummer was involved in at least one of the killings.

Around then, the authorities said, a police license plate scanner picked up the vehicle headed toward the Verrazano. MTA officers in a car on the highway spotted the car and pursued it. They pulled over the Hummer just before the toll plaza on the Staten Island side of the Verrazano. There, two bridge officers on foot patrol approached, ordering the man and woman out of the car. Lopez burst from the car and was quickly arrested on charges of riding in a stolen vehicle.

Brown, however, gunned the engine, sending the two officers diving out of the way, the police said. They turned and fired four shots at the Hummer as it smashed past a wooden barrier, through a closed lane and onto a service road. It crashed into other vehicles about a half-mile away, the police said, and the driver fled into the woods. □

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US Financial Front:

Business economists lower forecasts for US growth

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) —

U.S. business economists have sharply cut their growth forecasts for the April-June quarter and 2014, though they remain optimistic that the economy will rebound from a dismal first quarter.

The average forecast for growth in the second quarter has fallen to 3 percent, according to a survey released Friday by the National Association for Business Economics. That's down from 3.5 percent in a June survey. Growth in 2014 as a whole will be just 1.6 percent, they project, sharply below a previous forecast of 2.5 percent. If accurate, this year's growth would be the weakest since the Great Recession. The lower 2014 forecast largely reflects the impact of a sharp contraction in the first quarter. The economy shrank 2.9 percent at an annual rate, the biggest drop in five years. That decline will weigh heavily on the economy this year, even if growth resumes and stays at 3 percent or above, as most economists expect. The economists reduced their second-quarter forecast largely because they expect consumers spent at a much more modest pace. They now expect spending will grow just 2.3 percent at an annual rate in the second quarter, down from a 2.9 percent estimate in June. Spending rose just 1 percent in the first quarter, the smallest increase in four years, a sign consumers are still reluctant to spend freely.

Many retail chains are feeling the pain. The Container



A cashier rings up a sale at a Sears store, in Las Vegas. U.S. business economists have sharply cut their growth forecasts for the April-June quarter and 2014, though they remain optimistic that the economy will rebound from a dismal first quarter.

(AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

Store said Tuesday that sales at stores open for at least a year slipped 0.8 percent in the first quarter.

"We are experiencing a retail 'funk'," Kip Tindell, chief executive of The Container Store, said Tuesday. "While consumers are buying homes and automobiles and even high ticket furniture, most segments of retail are, like us, seeing more challenging sales than we had hoped early in 2014." Family Dollar Stores and clothing retailer the Gap also reported lower sales this week.

Another factor weighed heavily on the first quarter: A big drop in exports widened the nation's trade deficit and accounted for about half the contraction. Exports picked up in May and trade is unlikely to be as big a drag in the second quarter. But the NABE survey found that economists expect exports will now rise just 2.5 percent this year, down from June's estimate of 3 percent. The weak-

er figures reflect sluggish economies in Europe and slower growth in China.

The NABE did a special survey after the government announced the dismal figures at the end of June. The group typically surveys economists quarterly.

Despite the downgrades, the survey underscores that economists are mostly optimistic about the rest of this year. Analysts largely blame the first quarter shrinkage on temporary factors, such as harsh winter weather and a sharp slowdown in inventory restocking. When companies restock their inventories at a weaker pace, it slows demand for factory goods and lowers production.

Jack Kleinhenz, president of the association and chief economist at the National Retail Federation, said that most other recent economic data, particularly regarding hiring, has been positive. Employers have added an average of 230,000 jobs a month

this year, one of the best stretches since the recession. In addition, consumers are more confident and government spending cuts and tax increases are exerting less of a drag. In 2013, a Social Security tax cut expired and government spending cuts were implemented. The combined effects slowed growth by 1.5 percentage points, economists estimate.

As a result, the 50 economists who responded to the survey see the chances of a recession this year or next as pretty low. Sixty percent said the odds were 10 percent or lower, and more than 90 percent said they were 25 percent or lower.

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Downside of low US mortgage rates? Less selling

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Would-be home sellers across the country are grappling with a once-in-a-lifetime problem: They have mortgage rates so absurdly low it would hurt them financially to sell.

Doing so would mean giving up an irresistible rate in exchange for a new mortgage carrying a rate up to

reached a record low level of 3.3 percent in November 2012. It didn't top 4 percent again until mid-2013. Homeowners took advantage of the lower rates and a refinancing boom ensued. More than one-third of homes with a mortgage now have rates below 4 percent, real estate data provider CoreLogic estimates. Yet mortgage rates now average 4.2 percent.

furniture, appliances and garden supplies also take a hit.

Mark Fleming, chief economist at CoreLogic, estimates that as many as 3.6 million homeowners are unlikely to sell this year because they would have to give up a lower rate.

"They got the deal of the century," says Glenn Kelman, CEO of real estate brokerage Redfin. "I don't

payment to \$2,200 from \$2,600.

"I have no interest right now in selling," he said. He and his wife plan to remodel instead.

A shortage of homes for sale has plagued the housing market since late 2012. The number of available homes last year was the equivalent of just 4.9 months' worth of sales, according to the National As-

White House: 2014 US deficit to drop \$100B

ANDREW TAYLOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

The US government's budget deficit will drop to \$583 billion this year, the lowest level of President Barack Obama's tenure, the White House said Friday.

Last year's deficit was \$680 billion. The latest update from the White House budget office is also \$66 billion less than the administration predicted earlier this year when releasing the president's budget.

Obama presided over trillion-dollar-plus deficits during his first term as the economy struggled to recover from a deep recession and financial crisis. Attempts to strike deals on spending cuts and revenue increases with GOP leaders such as House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio have failed, though Obama was successful in muscling through a tax increase on wealthier earners in early 2013. Tight spending on annual agency budgets is also responsible for lower deficits.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects an even lower deficit of \$492 billion for the budget year ending Sept. 30.

"Under the president's leadership, the deficit has been cut by more than half as a share of the economy, representing the most rapid sustained deficit reduction since World War II, and it continues to fall," said acting White House budget director Brian Deese. "At the same time, our economy is moving forward and businesses are creating jobs. Businesses have added nearly 10 million new jobs over the past 52 months."

The White House has also lowered its economic growth forecast for the current year to 2.6 percent, reflecting the unexpected 2.9 percent drop in gross domestic product in the first quarter of this year when unusually severe weather dinged the economy. □



Ryan Carson, right, poses for a photo with his wife, Jenny Roraback-Carson, and their daughter Clara, 3, in the entry to their home in Seattle. The Carsons are one of many would-be home sellers across the country who have mortgage rates so low, it doesn't make financial sense to sell their homes, even if they need more space, a trend which limits the supply of homes and can contribute to slower home sales.

(AP Photo/Ted S. Warren)

a percentage point higher. Their monthly payments would be larger even for a house of the same price. That's discouraging some people from selling, thereby limiting the supply of available homes and contributing to slower home sales.

It's a significant shift from the way the U.S. housing market has worked for the past 30 years. For most of that time, whenever a homeowner decided to trade up to a better home, mortgage rates usually were lower than the last time they had bought. That helped make a new purchase seem more attractive.

But that is changing. The average rate on a 30-year mortgage fell below 4 percent in late 2011 and

That is still low by historical standards but up about three-quarters of a point from a year and a half ago. And should mortgage rates rise later this year and next, as many economists expect, even more homeowners will be affected. As a result, many homeowners with low rates are staying put. Others are moving and buying new homes, but keeping their old ones and renting them. Both choices mean that fewer homes are listed for sale, which drives up prices. Higher prices and limited selection have put the brakes on a housing recovery that began in 2012.

And slower home sales, in turn, drag down economic growth. Fewer sales mean lower commissions for real estate agents. Sales of

think in 100 years anyone will be lending money at 3.5 percent. How do you walk away from a deal like that?"

You'd think Ryan Carson, an attorney in Seattle, would be ready to sell. He and his wife have one young child and they are expecting twins. They are going to hire a live-in nanny, which means there will be five people living in their four-bedroom house.

"I could probably use the extra space, honestly," he said. And he would make money off the sale, since his home's market value is above what he paid.

But Carson, 39, has a 30-year, 3.85 percent mortgage rate, so he isn't going anywhere. He refinanced into the lower rate last summer, reducing his monthly

sociation of Realtors. That's far below the typical figure of 6 months. Inventory has recovered somewhat this year, partly because the spring buying season is underway, but it was still equal to just 5.6 months of supply in May.

Meanwhile, sales of existing homes have fallen 5 percent in the past year. Yet prices rose 8.8 percent nationwide during the same period, according to CoreLogic, partly because of the limited supply.

What economists call "rate lock-in" is one of several reasons so few houses are for sale. Another factor is that almost 40 percent of homeowners still don't have enough equity to enable them to sell.

Continued on Page 27

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Kerry pushes for solution to Afghanistan election crisis

MATTHEW ROSENBERG
CARLOTTA GALL
© 2014 New York Times
KABUL, Afghanistan - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry began a series of meet-

ings in Kabul on Friday in hopes of finding a way out of a presidential election crisis that has threatened to split the Afghan government and prompted Western officials to warn that Afghanistan risked losing billions of dollars in aid on which it depends.

Kerry arrived after midnight for the hastily arranged visit, landing in Kabul hours after a new U.N. proposal failed to bridge the divide between the two candidates, Abdullah Abdullah and Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai. Both have acknowledged the election was marred

by widespread fraud, and yet each campaign has claimed victory, with Abdullah this week threatening to

declare himself president if the allegations of vote-rigging were not adequately addressed. The prospect of Abdullah, who has the support of many powerful former warlords, attempting to seize power added a new layer of peril to the crisis. It raised the possibility of Afghanistan's still fragile government and security forces fracturing, possibly along regional and ethnic lines, just as U.S.-led combat forces are preparing to withdraw. Faced with the possible fracturing of a government the United States has spent billions to build and lost thousands of soldiers defending, the Obama administration this week began moving off its long-held position that the election was an issue for Afghans

to work out among themselves. President Barack Obama called both candidates following Abdullah's warning, and Kerry added a stop to Afghanistan on a trip he was already making to Asia.

Kerry's first meeting on Friday was with Jan Kubis, the U.N. special envoy for Afghanistan. It was Kubis' proposal, which called for a special audit of votes from 8,000 polling stations, or about 43 percent of the ballots cast, that on Thursday failed to win the approval of the Abdullah campaign, which wanted 11,000 polling stations examined.

Kerry then met President Hamid Karzai, who remains powerful and whose backing is crucial to any deal that could end the crisis. □



Secretary of State John Kerry greets Afghanistan presidential candidate Abdullah Abdullah at the American embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan, July 11, 2014. Kerry began a series of meetings in Kabul in hopes of finding a way out of a presidential election crisis that has threatened to split the Afghan government and prompted Western officials to warn that Afghanistan risked losing aid on which it depends. (Jim Bourg/Pool via The New York Times)

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France:

Court convicts 9 in Afghan terror network

PARIS (AP) — A Paris court on Friday convicted nine people of belonging to a terrorist network that trained in Afghanistan and reportedly planned attacks in France. The 15-day trial underscored the concerns of French and other European officials over Europeans returning from war zones in Syria — which has attracted more would-be jihadis than Afghanistan. The court handed down sentences ranging from two to nine years in prison. Three of the defendants were tried in absentia, including Touhami Tebourski,

who is in custody in Turkey awaiting extradition to France, and was sentenced to nine years. Two others are at large. Tebourski is one of four defendants that the prosecution said spent time in the Pakistan-Afghanistan border zone, a haven for al-Qaida and Taliban militia fighters. Two of the four — one arrested in Bulgaria, the other in Italy — were given eight-year prison terms. All denied they were fighters or had planned an attack. The court ruled the group had "varying commitments" to a "perfectly organized" network but

said there was no "clearly defined" project for attack. The prosecutor had sought the maximum 10-year sentence. Both the prosecution and the defendants can appeal the verdict. "For the time being, we are satisfied with the decision," said Julia Mas, a lawyer for Ryad Hennouni, a 27-year-old arrested in Naples, Italy, in 2010. "We were expecting a worse sentence." Hennouni contended during the trial that he spent time doing Islamic studies in Zahedan, Iran, near the borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan, but did not join the fighters. □

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Eastern Ukrainians flee as army suffers losses

**YURAS KARMANAU
PETER LEONARD**

Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP) —

Ukraine's president vowed vengeance in blood after 19 troops were killed in an insurgent rocket attack Friday, and residents of the rebel-held city of Donetsk began fleeing in large numbers for fear of a government siege.

The barrage of rocket fire just before sunrise at a base near the Russian border was a devastating setback for government forces, who had seemingly gained the upper hand last weekend when they pushed the pro-Russian fighters out of their stronghold city of Sloviansk. In addition to those killed, 93 soldiers were wounded, the Defense Ministry said.

"For every life of our soldiers, the militants will pay with tens and hundreds of their own," Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko warned. "Not one terrorist will evade responsibility. Everybody will get what is coming to them."

Ukrainian government troops have been fighting for more than three months against separatists in eastern Ukraine, and in the last two weeks, they have cut the territory held by the rebels in half. Driven from Sloviansk, the rebels have regrouped in Donetsk, an industrial city of 1 million, and Ukraine has said it will cordon off the area.

In anticipation of a siege, leaders of the self-styled Donetsk People's Repub-

lic announced they will evacuate entire neighborhoods. Many residents have rushed to pack up and leave for fear of getting caught in the cross-fire, given the insurgents' strategy of using residential areas for cover.

"The militia has begun

where there were none a few weeks earlier. Property values have collapsed, with one-bedroom apartments in the city center now selling for \$15,000, or one-third of what they cost before.

Estimates of how many people have left vary. The

the tickets for the coming week are sold out," station director Irina Nikolaicheva said.

Irina Khodyko, a 38-year old accountant, said she was leaving for Kiev with her 10-year old son and 12-year old daughter. Their apartment is by the once-



A Donetsk People's Republic fighter stands guard near a shopping mall damaged by an explosion in the city of Donetsk, eastern Ukraine Friday, July 11, 2014. On Friday afternoon a bomb exploded in a central shopping mall injuring one person.

(AP Photo/Dmitry Lovetsky)

blowing up roads, so I want to get out while there is still time. I don't want to turn into a living shield for the militants," said 56-year old businessman Andrei Koziyatko.

High-end shops are boarded up, and many other businesses, including insurance companies, real estate offices, beauty salons and notaries, have closed their doors. "For sale" and "For rent" signs abound

mayor's office said 30,000. Donetsk People's Republic prime minister Alexander Boroday put the number at 70,000 and rising.

At the Donetsk train station, people waited in long lines at the ticket office. Four trains a day go to the capital, Kiev, and three others travel in the opposite direction, to the southern Russian city of Rostov-on-Don. "People are trying to go in any which direction. But all

gleaming international airport — now a bombed-out ruin in a district rendered inaccessible by the daily clashes.

"Life has become impossible. Every day they shoot. All the windows in our apartment are shot out. The children have stopped sleeping," Khodyko said. She said insurgent forces tried to press-gang her husband into fighting, but he fled. □

Mexico rescues 8 child migrants from kidnappers

MARIA VERZA

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Authorities said Friday they had rescued eight Salvadoran migrant youths who had been kidnapped by an equally youthful gang in northern Mexico.

Prosecutors also said a previously reported operation had rescued a total of 203 kidnapped migrants being held in brutal conditions during which they were forced to watch executions. On Thursday, officials had put the number at 158. Mexican drug gangs often kidnap Central American migrants to extort money from their relatives in the United States. Now, increasing numbers of minors appear to have become victims of kidnappings in recent months amid an upsurge in young migrants from Central America seeking to get into the United States.

Mexico's top anti-kidnapping prosecutor, Renato Sales, said police rescued 19 kidnapped Salvadoran immigrants at a house in the northern border state of Tamaulipas. All were lying on the floor with their hands and feet bound, including eight under-age migrants.

Police detained six alleged kidnappers at the house in the city of Altamira during the raid July 3. Three of the suspects were under 18, two were 18, and another was 22.

Sales did not give the exact ages of the minor victims or suspects, but said youths were increasingly being detected in kidnapping gangs.

In another raid Wednesday, police rescued two minors and five adult migrants from Honduras who had been kidnapped in the border city of Reynosa. The victims had spent more than 20 days in captivity. The update on the big rescue involved migrants who told police they had been held captive for more than two weeks in two homes in the Tamaulipas port city of Tampico. □

German FM to meet Kerry to discuss spying claims

BERLIN (AP) — Germany's foreign minister said Friday he will tell U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry at a meeting this weekend that Berlin wants to reinvigorate the two countries' friendship "on an honest basis" after asking Washington's top spy to leave.

Thursday's decision to demand the departure of the intelligence representative at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin was "the right decision, a necessary step and an appropriate reaction to the

breach of trust that has taken place," Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier told reporters in Berlin.

It followed reports over the past 10 days that U.S. intelligence had recruited two Germans — a man who worked at the country's foreign intelligence agency and a defense ministry employee. Steinmeier said those reports were "troubling."

They added to friction and frustration over reports last year that the U.S. was in-

tercepting Internet traffic in Germany and eavesdropping on Chancellor Angela Merkel's cellphone calls. Steinmeier said he will meet Kerry on the sidelines of talks in Vienna about Iran's nuclear program. The U.S. State Department confirmed that a bilateral meeting would take place. There is "no alternative" to Germany's longstanding partnership with the United States in view of challenges in Ukraine, Iran, Afghanistan and elsewhere, Stein-

meier stressed. "That is why this cooperation must be marked not just by trust but by mutual respect."

"We want to reinvigorate our partnership, our friendship on an honest basis — we in any case are prepared to do that," he said. "And that will be the message I will give to my American colleague."

Government spokesman Steffen Seibert said Germany expects the unidentified American spy to leave the country "promptly." □

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Netanyahu says feels no pressure to quit bombing Gaza

Isabel Kershner
Fares Akram
Rick Gladstone

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JERUSALEM - Brushing aside criticism of Israel's four-day aerial attacks on Gaza, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Friday he felt no international pressure to quit the operation and would not rule out a ground invasion to stop the barrages of rockets from Palestinian militants.

"We are weighing all possibilities and preparing for all possibilities," Netanyahu told reporters at a news conference in Tel Aviv. Netanyahu, who has spoken with the leaders of the United States, Russia and the United Nations among others since Israel began the aerial assaults, said the Israelis had hit more than 1,000 targets in Gaza and still had more to go.

"No international pressure will prevent us from strik-

ing the terrorists who are attacking us," Netanyahu was quoted by news agencies as saying.

He spoke as Palestinian health officials in Gaza reported at least eight more deaths from Israeli airstrikes early Friday, pushing the number of fatalities toward 100, many of them civilians, including women and children. Hundreds more have been reported wounded, and neither side has shown any inclination to de-escalate. No outside mediator has stepped in yet to broker a renewal of the cease-fire that came into effect after the last round of fierce, cross-border fighting, in November 2012. Militants based in Gaza launched an intense volley of rockets into southern and central Israel on Friday, and said they had barely dented their arsenal of rockets amassed over the past few years.



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gestures as he speaks during a press conference at the defense ministry in the Israeli coastal city of Tel Aviv on Friday, July 11, 2014. Netanyahu said he will not cave in to international pressure to stop a military offensive in the Gaza Strip. He told a news conference Friday that Israel will continue its offensive until rocket fire out of Gaza is halted.

(AP photo/Gali Tibbon, Pool)

Iraq:

Kurds take over 2 oil fields

SINAN SALAHEDDIN
Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Kurdish security forces took over two major oil fields outside the disputed northern city of Kirkuk before dawn Friday and said they would use some of the production for domestic purposes, further widening a split with the central government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki. The takeover of the Bai Hassan and Kirkuk oil fields were the latest land grabs by Kurds, who have responded to the Sunni militant insurgency that has overrun large parts of Iraq by seizing territory of their own, effectively expanding the Kurdish autonomous zone in the north. Those moves have infuriat-

ed al-Maliki's government while stoking independence sentiment among the Kurds.

Kurdish fighters known as peshmerga pushed into the city of Kirkuk, a major hub for the oil industry in the north, and the surrounding area weeks ago in the early days of the Sunni militant blitz. But until now they had not moved into the oil fields in the area. On Friday, however, the fighters took over the Bai Hassan and Kirkuk fields and expelled local workers, the Oil Ministry in Baghdad said.

Oil Ministry spokesman Assem Jihad denounced the move as "a violation to the constitution" and warned that it poses "a threat to national unity."

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Paltry car sales seen as sign of priorities

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — It's not your typical car lot.

Just steps from the Florida Straits, dozens of vehicles sit covered in grime and baking in the Caribbean sun. An elderly security guard slumps in a sleepy waiting area, and customers are nowhere to be seen.

A price list hanging on the green chain-link fence hints at why: \$85,000 for a 6-year-old Peugeot compact; \$46,000 for a tiny

first half-year, bringing in \$1.3 million in sales, it was tempting to call the policy a failure.

But analysts say it seems the measure was designed to work that way.

"At those prices, they obviously didn't want to sell many cars," said Philip Peters, president of the Virginia-based Cuba Research Center. "And they're not." Peters suggested officials simply don't see it as a priority and would rather spend what little hard cur-

a decade ago.

However, a recent tour of several dealerships in Havana found the same 400 percent markups as before. Not a single potential client was in sight. Employees refused to speak to reporters, though one confirmed that prices have not budged.

There are no publicly available statistics on how many vehicles circulate in Cuba, but visitors to Havana marvel at how empty the streets are for a city of

since January's reform.

"The only Cuban consumers who can afford it are probably musicians that have got some terrific royalty earnings on their latest record, or people who cashed out fabulously when they sold their family home, and I can't think of anybody else," Peters said. "It's a very, very small sliver of the public that could think of affording such prices, and, as we see, an even smaller sliver that actually decides to do it."



A Chinese made vehicle passes in front of a mural of revolutionary hero Ernesto "Che" Guevara in Havana, Cuba. A new law took effect in January letting Cubans buy cars from the government freely for the first time in decades. The euphoria that greeted the law turned to anger when the exorbitant prices were posted. (AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

2008 Citroen C3 hatchback that would cost less than a third of that in Europe. Elsewhere, a larger, new Peugeot 508 lists for \$262,000, five times its price in Britain — and more than a millennium worth of paychecks in Cuba, where wages average about \$20 a month.

The euphoria that greeted a January reform that lets Cubans buy vehicles from the government without a special permit for the first time in decades turned to anger when the prices were posted. When authorities announced recently that just 50 cars had rolled off the lots of state-run dealerships in the

rency the country has on things like food and industrial inputs.

"I think there's only one explanation ... the government does not want to use its foreign exchange reserves to import cars for a retail market," he said. "So therefore the only way that it's worth it to them, to import a car for \$20,000 and then sell it retail, is to soak up \$50,000 worth of liquidity."

Some islanders initially hoped authorities would adjust prices downward when they got a sense of what the market would bear. That happened when cellphones first appeared in Cuba more than

about 2 million people.

Jorge Pinon, a Latin America energy expert at the University of Texas, said Cuba's reluctance to sell cars isn't out of fear of insufficient fuel. The country gets tens of thousands of barrels of oil a day on preferential terms from Venezuela.

But Pinon noted that a huge infusion of vehicles would test the creaky transportation infrastructure of Cuba, where potholes can go unfilled for years and traffic lights are scarce.

In a separate measure in 2011, Cuba legalized private, person-to-person sales of used cars. But those prices started out high and have now shot even higher

For years, the clearest path to an automobile in Cuba was to get a permit to buy one by completing an overseas mission for the government. A typical returnee might have cobbled together around \$5,000, enough to buy a used car or a cheap Russian or Chinese model under the old pricing schedule.

Rodolfo Cid's quest to obtain a car began six years ago when the 55-year-old Construction Ministry engineer agreed to work on a mission in Venezuela. He got a \$600 cut of the \$3,000 a month that Caracas paid Havana for his services. □

Opposition sides say Haiti elections are jeopardized

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— Leading opposition factions are alleging that Haiti's presidentially appointed electoral council is stacking the deck in favor of President Michel Martelly, who has scheduled long-delayed legislative and municipal elections for October.

Parties complaining of exclusion and unfair advantages include the Unity party of former President Rene Preval and the Lavalas Family founded by former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. They are among the major opposition groups that boycotted election talks earlier in the year and have refused to register with the Provisional Electoral Council, which they contend is rigged.

An accord setting Oct. 26 as election day has not been authorized by the Senate, where a group of staunch Martelly opponents argue it is unconstitutional.

The electoral council picked by Martelly has only seven of its mandated nine members and its president, Fritz Canton, is a lawyer who is defending former dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier against charges of embezzlement and human rights abuses.

"What Haiti needs is an impartial electoral council that won't take sides for either the government or the opposition," said Dieudonne Saincy, Unity's spokesman. "We are now in a political crisis because this electoral council is entirely under the control of Martelly."

Former Lavalas senator Louis Gerald Gilles asserted that Martelly's government "is doing everything it can to take over the election process."

Martelly's administration has brushed off the criticism as the intransigence of his political opponents, some of whom have organized street protests to demand his resignation. Martelly insists he has made several concessions to opponents, including forming a new Cabinet, and has actively tried to make compromises with members of the Senate. □



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ORANJESTAD – July, 2014 – Once again, this year De Palm Tours is the proud recipient of the TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence award. All credit goes to the three hundred staff members that work hard to provide the many different services and tours offered by the company. The accolade, which honors hospitality excellence, is given only to establishments that consistently

achieve outstanding traveler reviews on TripAdvisor, and is extended to qualifying businesses worldwide. When selecting Certificate of Excellence winners, TripAdvisor uses a proprietary algorithm to determine the honorees that takes into account reviews ratings. Businesses must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, volume and recentness of reviews. Additional criteria include a business' tenure and popularity ranking on the site. "Our mission of safety, teamwork and hard work

with an element of fun is reflected in the way we deliver the experiences to our customers", said Warren Stanley General Manager of De Palm Tours. "All credit to our staff because that's what has driven over four thousand TripAdvisor ratings with an average four and half star rating for the company." "TripAdvisor is pleased to honor exceptional hospitality businesses for consistent excellence," said Marc Charron, President of TripAdvisor for Business. "The Certificate of Excellence award gives top performing establishments

around the world the recognition they deserve, based on feedback from those who matter most – their customers. From Australia to Zimbabwe, we want to applaud exceptional hospitality businesses for offering TripAdvisor travelers a great customer experience." About De Palm Tours: De Palm Tours is your one-stop portal to fun and adventure! Their wide selection of tours and activities has been thoughtfully developed with you in mind - for quiet time, mellow cruising, amazing discovery, wet 'n wild action,

cool comfort, and rugged exploration. Their unique high-energy and low-impact repertoire for day and night, land and sea, is guaranteed to bring an unforgettable dimension to your vacation. De Palm Tours offers: Island Transportation, Sail & Snorkel Tours, Exciting Off-Road Adventures, Comfortable Island Tours, Submarine and Semi-Submarine Dives, Snuba, Seatrek, De Palm Island and Destination Management Services. For more information visit: www.depalmstours.com or call (+297) 522-4400. □

Roberta Rinaldi Decourt honored at the Playa Linda Beach Resort



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice young woman, who is a loyal and friendly Visitor of Aruba, as Distinguished Visitor, at the Playa Linda Beach Resort. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name

of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honoree was Ms. Roberta Rinaldi Decourt, of São Paulo, Brazil. Roberta has been visiting Aruba since she was a baby with her parents and grandparents, as a child

she fell in love with Aruba, and she also fell in love the friendly people of Aruba, the Playa Linda, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home where the people are like a family to her. This year the whole family Decourt is back on the island enjoying the most of their home away

from home. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Yvette Tromp and Mr. Peter van Grinsven representing the Playa Linda Beach Resort. □

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Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



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For 2014;

Culinary Arts Form Part of the Art Rules Aruba Arts Program

ORANJESTAD - Art Rules Aruba has been offering kids age 13-23 the opportunity to cultivate their artistic talents and skills each summer since 2010, by organizing a two week intensive workshop program on the island.

The workshops Art Rules Aruba offer are conducted by expert, visiting international artists and teachers who come to the island every year to share their



The local chefs cater lunch as a donation from their own companies among them Chef Bram Verleg, Chef Urvin Croes, Chef Ludwig Samson, Sous Chef Gilbert Flemming, the Culinary

Phoenix Aruba Beach Resort in action and having fun with the culinary students.

For more information on the program, please visit our website www.artrulesaruba.com



knowledge and passion with the aspiring young local artists. This year the program celebrates 5 years and later this summer it is also be expanding to the island of Curaçao, for the first time.

For the 2014 edition, Art Rules Aruba enjoys the collaboration of top local chefs to feed their students and teachers, almost 200 people, headquartered at Cas Di Cultura.



Brigade of the Hyatt Regency and Chef Matt Boland and the whole executive team of Divi Resorts. In the photos, Chef Anthony de Palm from the Divi

saruba.com and also have a look at this little promo video at: <https://vimeo.com/97865030>. The program runs from July 7th till July 18th. □

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All the way from Holland:

Andreas and Hilda love Aruba and Tango Argentine Grill!



PALM BEACH - They look fantastically happy, Andreas Antonius and Hilda Beukema from Holland. And not surprisingly so: they have fallen in love. Not only

with each other, but also with the island and with a restaurant they just happened to pass by.

But first to the beginning:

Andreas and Hilda had planned to stay on Aruba for three days, but they loved Aruba so much that they extended their stay to a week. The couple loves



the relaxed atmosphere here, the good food and the temperature of the azure water of the ocean. Earlier this week they strolled past the Arawak Garden, a small, restaurant-filled plaza with live music, kiosks and a piano bar and they decided to try the Tango Argentine Grill for a change. They were bowled over by the filet mignon and came back a few times for it and

promised to come back one more time before they leave.

At Tango they hope that they will order one of the other extraordinary menu options so they can show off, but expectations are that Andreas and Hilda will go for the filet mignon again.

Well, that's life!

Hope you'll come back soon, Hilda and Andreas! □



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Netherlands head coach Louis van Gaal, right, and player Nigel de Jong attend a training session at the Estadio Nacional in Brasilia, Brazil, Friday, July 11, 2014.

Associated Press

Netherlands looking to finish World Cup unbeaten

TALES AZZONI

AP Sports Writer

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Dutch coach Louis Van Gaal is trying to motivate his players for the third-place match against Brazil by giving them the mission of becoming the only Dutch squad to finish a World Cup unbeaten in regular play.

Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari is just hoping Brazil can finish on a high note in front of the home fans following the devastating 7-1 loss to Germany.

After being eliminated by Argentina on penalties, the Netherlands has the chance of ending the tournament without a loss in seven matches. The Dutch won its first four games, then drew Costa Rica 0-0 in the quarters and Argentina 0-0 in the semis.

Continued on Next Page

DEERE HUNTING



Johnson, McGirt share 36-hole lead

William McGirt checks his line on the ninth green during the second round of the 2014 John Deere Classic golf tournament at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Ill., Friday, July 11, 2014.

Associated Press
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Continued from Page 17

Van Gaal had been saying the third-place game was pointless and that he would rather not play it, but on Friday he changed the tone a bit, saying that going out without a loss would be a good reason to stay motivated.

"We are realizing that there is something else we need to defend and we have to go for it," Van Gaal said through a translator. "Never a Dutch team returned home unbeaten, and that has to be the next target." Scolari said the third-place match will be important to give Brazilian fans some reason to celebrate in the team's final World Cup appearance at home.

"We already know that we can't reach our main goal anymore," the coach said. "But we still have the third-place game and we want to win so we can give at least some happiness to the Brazilian people."

Scolari said he is expecting to make two or three



Brazil's coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, right, and player Thiago Silva attend a press conference one day before their team's World Cup third-place soccer match against the Netherlands at the Estadio Nacional in Brasilia, Brazil, Friday, July 11, 2014.

changes to the lineup that played against Germany, but didn't give any hints. In a training session earlier Friday, he used a lineup without striker Fred, who has struggled throughout the World Cup.

Brazil captain Thiago Silva, who didn't play against

Germany because of a yellow card suspension, was in the team that lost to the Netherlands in the quarterfinals of the 2010 World Cup in South Africa.

"I couldn't be more motivated," Silva said. "It's a different objective, but we will be playing for our hon-

or and our dignity. When you wear the Brazilian jersey you have to respect it and you always have to play motivated. We have to move on." It is the second time the Netherlands is playing in the third-match game at a World Cup. It fell to Croatia 2-1 in 1998

Associated Press

after being beaten by Brazil in the semifinals.

"Losing hurts a lot, the pain doesn't go away so fast, but it's part of sports," striker Dirk Kuyt said. "There's always the next match. We want to win here and return unbeaten. It will be easier to get on the plane with a good feeling. It would be wonderful to close this World Cup by winning. We are still not satisfied, but third place gives you a much better feeling than fourth place."

Van Gaal recalled that even the great teams of 1974 and 1978 were not able to finish the World Cup without losses.

The 1978 squad had two losses in the tournament in Argentina.

"There's still something for us to do, we haven't lost a match and we are working to keep it that way," Van Gaal said. "I've been focusing on Brazil and I hope that I can prepare my players so we can play a good match and defeat Brazil for third place. □

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WORLD CUP BRASIL 2014

Johnson, McGirt on top at John Deere Classic

TIM CRONIN

Associated Press

SILVIS, Illinois (AP)—Zach Johnson and William McGirt were at 12-under-par 130 and tied for the lead at the halfway point of the John Deere Classic.

They were a stroke ahead of Steven Bowditch, Johnson Wagner and Brian Harman.

Three-time Deere winner Steve Stricker shot a 65 Friday for a 133 total to vault into contention at the par-71 TPC Deere Run, and was tied for sixth with Rory Sabbatini, Ryan Moore and Todd Hamilton.

Johnson, the Deere winner in 2012, shot a 4-under 67 in the afternoon despite two bogeys in his last four holes. That dropped him into a tie with McGirt.

McGirt, 35, is looking for his first PGA Tour victory. He added a 66 to his opening 64, but like Johnson, he finished with a bogey. McGirt's best finish this year is a tie for sixth in the Northern Trust Open at Riviera. Since then, he's had one top 10 and has missed the cut in seven of 14 tournaments.

McGirt is winless on the PGA Tour in 111 starts, most of them in the last four years. His best finishes are a pair of ties for second in the Canadian Open, in 2012 and 2013.

One thing McGirt hasn't been doing well recently is sinking putts, but he's needed only 24 in each of the first two rounds.

"For some reason I'm able to see the line this week," McGirt said. "I feel I've putted better the last few weeks and haven't holed anything."

Bowditch opened his round with an eagle 3 on the 10th hole en route to a 67, while Wagner made it to 12 under before a bogey on his last hole. Stricker matched McGirt's 5-under 30 on Deere Run's front nine to finish his round.

Hamilton, who grew up in the area, used a 69 to get to 133, while Moore shot 67 and Sabbatini shot 70. Jerry Kelly and Charles Howell III were among those at 8 under. Howell, who shot 68, aced the uphill 132-yard third hole. Defending champion Jordan Spieth was five strokes off the lead thanks to a 64 for 7-under 135. He was five back after two rounds last year.

Johnson's victory in 2012 isn't his only good finish at the Deere. He lost in a playoff last year, tied for second in 2009, and tied for third in 2011. He also sits on the tournament's board of directors.

"I'm going to have a lot of friends outside the ropes, and it's terrific," Johnson



Zach Johnson watches his drive off the 18th tee during the second round of the 2014 John Deere Classic golf tournament at TPC Deere Run in Silvis, Ill., Friday, July 11, 2014. Associated Press

said. "They don't care if I shoot 62 or 82. They're still going to be on my side. "Trying to play for them may have been part of the issue years ago, but not anymore."

Stricker, 109 under par in 22 rounds since 2009 at Deere Run, got within sight of the leaders with his 30 on the front nine to

finish his round.

"At least I kept pace," Stricker said. "This was an important day for me. I didn't go out with a specific number in mind, but I knew I needed something good."

Stricker won three straight at Deere Run starting in 2009, and has tied for fifth and 10th place, respec-

tively, the last two years.

"I know how to play it, I guess," Stricker said. "There's a lot of short iron shots, which plays into my game, and I seem to putt the ball really well, too."

The cut fell at 2-under-par 140, with 77 players making it. Former world No. 1 David Duval withdrew after an opening 81. □

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WORLD CUP BRASIL 2014

LeBron James says he's returning to Cleveland

TIM REYNOLDS
TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writers

CLEVELAND (AP) — NBA superstar LeBron James is returning to the Cleveland Cavaliers after winning two NBA titles with the Miami Heat.

The league's biggest star told Sports Illustrated for a story published Friday that he was signing with the Cavaliers because his relationship with the northeast Ohio area is "bigger than basketball."

"When I left Cleveland, I was on a mission," James said in the SI first-person story. "I was seeking championships, and we won two. But Miami already knew that feeling. Our city hasn't had that feeling in a long, long, long time. My goal is



In this Dec. 25, 2009 file photo, Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James reacts during the second half against the Los Angeles Lakers in an NBA basketball game in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

them when I can."

He left Cleveland being called disloyal, a narcissist, a coward and a quitter — and that was all by Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert.

And now James will play for Gilbert again.

"I am excited for the fans and people of Cleveland and Ohio. No fans and people deserve a winner more than them," Gilbert said on Twitter.

"I'm not having a press conference or a party," James told SI. "After this, it's time to get to work."

And with that, the "Big 3" era in Miami ends much sooner than the Heat expected. James, Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade all exercised options in their contracts to become free agents this summer, but the thinking was that they would renegotiate their deals to give the team financial flexibility in an effort to make upgrades to the roster.

Instead, James is heading back to his roots. Bosh may now leave as well, with widespread reports that the Houston Rockets are preparing to give him a four-year contract offer worth \$88 million. And the Heat face a decidedly uncertain future, a stunning twist for a franchise that has won the last four Eastern Conference titles.

And the numbers he's put up in his first 11 NBA seasons already make him a certainty to finish among the league's all-time greats.

He's already 27th all-time in scoring with 23,170 points, and could climb into the top 20 next season. Since he entered the league as the No. 1 overall pick by the Cavaliers in 2003, no one has played more minutes or scored more points. Only Tony Parker and Tim Duncan of the San Antonio Spurs have appeared in more regular-season wins over the last 11 years than James. And he just seems to keep getting better; this past season was his seventh straight year where he posted a career-best in field-goal percentage, shooting just under 57 percent. □

still to win as many titles as possible, no question. But what's most important for me is bringing one trophy back to Northeast Ohio."

James spent his first seven NBA seasons in Cleveland. In four years with the Heat, he went to the NBA Finals four times, winning two championships. And now he heads back to Cleveland to see if he can finally deliver on his promise of winning a crown for that title-starved city.

"I am shocked & disappointed in today's news," Heat managing general partner Micky Arison wrote on Twitter. "However I will never forget what LeBron brought us for 4 years. Thanks for memories."

James said he will always call Miami his second home. But the lure of his first one was simply too strong to ignore. James is from Akron, Ohio, not far from Cleveland.

"Before anyone ever cared where I would play basketball, I was a kid from Northeast Ohio. It's where I walked," James told SI. "It's where I ran. It's where I cried. It's where I bled. It holds a special place in my heart. People there have seen me grow up. I sometimes feel like I'm their son. Their passion can be overwhelming. But it drives me. I want to give them hope when I can. I want to inspire

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AP Sources: Bosh agrees to max deal with Heat

TIM REYNOLDS
AP Basketball Writer

Chris Bosh is staying in Miami, agreeing Friday to a five-year contract that will be worth about \$118 million, said two people familiar with the deal.

They spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither side had confirmed it publicly. Keeping Bosh addresses one of the Miami's top priorities after getting the news earlier in the day that LeBron James was leaving the Heat and returning to the Cleveland Cavaliers. There's still plenty of work for Heat President Pat Riley to do, however. But first, he and the team lauded what James meant to them over the last four seasons.

"While I am disappointed by LeBron's decision to leave Miami, no one can

fault another person for wanting to return home," Riley said in a statement Friday. "The last four years have been an incredible run for South Florida,

Heat fans, our organization and for all of the players who were a part of it. LeBron is a fantastic leader, athlete, teammate and person, and we are all sorry to see him go."

Next up for the Heat is signing a deal with Dwyane Wade, who has spent all 11 of his NBA seasons in Miami. Wade and Miami were negotiating a new contract Friday, a move that was expected from the very moment that the 2006 NBA Finals MVP opted out of a deal that would have paid him about \$42 million over the next two seasons.

"I know where I'm going," Wade told The AP on

Thursday, one day before James let the world that he was going elsewhere.

While Miami is working to get a Wade deal finalized, it's unclear when Bosh will actually sign his contract. He's expected to be in Ghana until next week. Bosh is an All-Star who averaged 16.2 points on 52 percent shooting last season, and now figures to potentially get many more shots in the Heat offensive scheme. For his career, Bosh has averaged 19.2 points in 11 NBA seasons.

This much is certain: There's no shortage of openings on the Heat roster.

Miami has agreed to deals with Josh McRoberts and Danny Granger, which should get finalized once the Heat figure how to allocate their spending now that James is gone.



In this May 8, 2014, file photo, Miami Heat center Chris Bosh celebrates after the Heat defeated the Brooklyn Nets 94-82 in Game 2 of an NBA basketball Eastern Conference semifinal series in Miami.

Associated Press

Guard Norris Cole was the only holdover from last season with a guaranteed contract, while young center Justin Hamilton has a partially guaranteed deal and point guard Shabazz Napier came to the Heat on

draft night.

Wade and Udonis Haslem, who also opted out with hopes it would help the team keep James, will almost certainly be back, and the team thinks highly of James Ennis, who played overseas last season. □

Pearce HR helps O's squeeze past Nats 4-3

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE (AP) — Steve Pearce homered and scored twice to help Wei-Yin Chen earn his team-high ninth victory, and Baltimore beat Washington for its eighth win in 10 games. Adam Jones and Nelson Cruz both drove in a run for the Orioles, who built a 4-0 lead in the third inning and held on. Baltimore took two of three from the Nationals in this rain-shortened, home-and-home interleague showdown between division leaders. Jayson Werth homered for Washington and Ryan Zimmerman had two hits and an RBI.

Chen (9-3) gave up three runs in 5 2-3 innings, improving to 6-1 in 12 starts since May 3. He was 0-2 with a 7.71 ERA in his previous two starts against the Nationals.

After Darren O'Day worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the eighth, Zach Britton got three outs for his 15th save, capping his 22nd consecutive scoreless ap-



Baltimore Orioles' Steve Pearce rounds the bases past Washington Nationals shortstop Ian Desmond after hitting a solo home run in the first inning of an interleague baseball game, Thursday, July 10, 2014, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

pearance at home.

Gio Gonzalez (6-5) allowed three earned runs and six hits in 6 2-3 innings. His streak of 22 consecutive scoreless innings ended when Pearce connected in the first.

INDIANS 9, YANKEES 3

CLEVELAND (AP) — Roberto Perez hit a two-run homer in his major league debut, Carlos Santana also connected and Cleveland scored nine runs in its last two innings at bat to rally past New York.

Asdrubal Cabrera's bases-loaded triple and Michael Brantley's sacrifice fly highlighted a four-run seventh that erased a 3-0 deficit. Brantley, a first-time All-Star this season, added an RBI single in a five-run eighth, when Perez and Santana homered.

On a conference call during the game, Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said right-hander Masahiro Tanaka has a partially torn ligament in his pitching elbow. The team hopes its rookie sensation

will be able to return this season.

Cashman said Tanaka could be back in six weeks, but didn't rule out the possibility of Tommy John surgery if the pitcher doesn't respond to a rehab program.

Perez also singled in the seventh for his first career hit. Carlos Carrasco (2-3) pitched a scoreless inning to help the Indians gain a four-game split.

Derek Jeter, playing his final regular-season game in Cleveland, went 2 for 4 in the 1,000th multihit game of his career. Ichiro Suzuki had a pinch-hit single for his 2,800th major league hit. Zelig Wheeler hit a two-run homer, and Yankees starter David Phelps took a shutout into the seventh. Matt Thornton (0-3) took the loss.

TWINS 4, MARINERS 2

SEATTLE (AP) — Kendrys Morales hit a two-run double in the fifth inning to help Minnesota rookie right-hander Johan Pino earn his first major league victory. □

NL Capsules

Streak over, Kershaw pitches Dodgers past Pads 2-1

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — LOS ANGELES (AP) — Clayton Kershaw's scoreless streak ended at 41 innings when he gave up a home run to Chase Headley, but the Los Angeles ace pitched a three-hitter with 11 strikeouts to lead the Dodgers over the San Diego Padres 2-1 on Thursday night.

Kershaw won his eighth straight start and came within 18 innings of the major league record set by Dodgers right-hander Orel Hershiser, who threw 59 consecutive shutout innings in 1988.

Headley homered off Kershaw in the sixth, halting the longest scoreless streak in the majors since Brandon Webb went 42 innings for the Arizona Diamondbacks in 2007.

Kershaw's run tied Luis Tiant for the fifth-longest in the expansion era (since 1961). **ATHLETICS 6, GIANTS 1**

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — All-Star Scott Kazmir struck out nine in seven scoreless innings to help Oakland win the annual Bay Bridge series.

Josh Donaldson hit a two-



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw, left, looks on as San Diego Padres' Chase Headley rounds third after hitting a solo home run during the sixth inning of a baseball game on Thursday, July 10, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

run homer and Stephen Vogt drove in three runs for the A's, who won three of four in the two-city series that began Monday night

in Oakland. The A's (58-34) have won seven of eight overall and have matched the best start in Oakland history. Tim Hudson (7-6)

was unable to make it out of the sixth inning and lost his fourth straight decision for the floundering Giants. San Francisco has lost 15 of its past 19 home games and hasn't won consecutive games at AT&T Park in more than a month.

Kazmir (11-3) allowed three hits and one walk. He has yielded one run or fewer in 11 of 19 starts this season for a 2.38 ERA.

CUBS 6, REDS 4, 12 INNINGS CINCINNATI (AP) — Luis Valbuena hit a tiebreaking, two-run triple in the 12th inning and Chicago avoided a rare five-game sweep in Cincinnati.

Arismendy Alcantara singled with one out and went to second on Starlin Castro's two-out infield single.

Valbuena, who was 0 for 4 with three strikeouts, sent a drive to deep right field against J.J. Hoover (1-6). Skip Schumaker was unable to catch up with the ball, but Valbuena was thrown out at the plate trying for an inside-the-park home run.

Alcantara got his first major league hit — a two-run

double — and drove in three runs. Blake Parker (1-0) pitched the last two innings and the Cubs snapped their losing streak at a season-high six games. Ryan Ludwick homered, but the Reds couldn't overcome a lineup missing more than half its regulars and the loss of starter Homer Bailey to a knee injury after five innings.

Gold Glove second baseman Brandon Phillips is expected to miss six weeks after having surgery Friday to repair torn ligaments in his left thumb.

PHILLIES 9, BREWERS 1

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Jimmy Rollins broke up Matt Garza's no-hit bid with a single in the seventh before sparking a seven-run outburst an inning later, helping Philadelphia complete a four-game sweep of Milwaukee.

Rollins greeted reliever Will Smith in the eighth by singling to left to drive home two runs. Garza (6-6) had just been pulled from the game to a standing ovation but could only watch from the dugout as his shutout evaporated.



Andrew Talansky of the U.S. crashes as the pack with stage winner Italy's Matteo Trentin, foreground left, sprints towards the finish line during the seventh stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 234.5 kilometers (145.7 miles) with start in Epernay and finish in Nancy, France, Friday, July 11, 2014.

Associated Press

JAMEY KEATEN
Associated Press

NANCY, France (AP) — Matteo Trentin of Italy won Friday's seventh stage of the Tour de France in a photo finish, after two top American hopefuls went down in the latest spills of a crash-marred edition this year.

Fellow Italian Vincenzo

Nibali retained the overall leader's yellow jersey. U.S. rider Tejay van Garderen, a solid all-around rider with an outside shot at the title, crashed late in the stage and lost more than a minute in the title chase.

The sun finally broke through clouds that had dumped rain over riders in recent days for the 234.5

Italy's Trentin wins 7th

Tour leg in photo finish

kilometer (146 mile) ride from Epernay, the capital of Champagne country, to the eastern city of Nancy. It was the second-longest stage of the three-week race this year.

Trentin, a cheery 24-year-old who won a stage in the Tour of Switzerland earlier this year, beat Slovakia's Peter Sagan by what looked like no more than a centimeter or two on the finish-line photo of the final sprint.

Trentin patted Sagan on the back after crossing the line. The Cannondale star, who took home the green jersey given to the Tour's best overall sprinter for the last two years, has finished in the top-5 of every stage this year — and second three times — but has yet to

win. France's Tony Gallopin was third.

"Honestly I didn't know that I won. I told Peter that he had beaten me on the line. Cycling is nice because anything can happen," said Trentin, who won a stage in Lyon in his first Tour last year. "It's a good thing that I won two times."

Trentin dedicated the victory to his Omega Pharma Quick Step team and its star sprinter Mark Cavendish, who crashed out in Stage 1.

BMC leader van Garderen was not the only American to have a bad day. Andrew Talansky fell in the final sprint, rolling over and scuffing up his left arm and ripping his jersey on his shoulder after getting bumped by Australia's

Simon Gerrans.

But under course rules, Talansky, the Garmin-Sharp team leader, didn't lose time in the title chase because his crash happened within the last three kilometers. He yelled in frustration after crossing the line. "He's ok ... it's not something that's going to affect him much," Garmin-Sharp team Jonathan Vaughters said of Talansky on French TV.

"I don't know if it was Gerrans' fault, but he's angry. That's 100-percent sure."

Overall, Nibali has a two-second lead over Astana teammate Jakob Fuglsang and is two minutes, 37 seconds clear of two-time Tour winner Alberto Contador — his main rival.

Inventor pushes solar panels for roads, highways

NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS

Associated Press

SPOKANE, Washington (AP)

— The solar panels that Idaho inventor Scott Brusaw has built aren't meant for rooftops. They are meant for roads, driveways, parking lots, bike trails and, eventually, highways.

Brusaw, an electrical engineer, says the hexagon-shaped panels can withstand the wear and tear that comes from inclement weather and vehicles, big and small, to generate electricity.

"We need to rebuild our infrastructure," said Brusaw, the head of Solar Roadways, based in Sandpoint, Idaho, about 90 miles (145 kilometers) northeast of Spokane, Washington. His idea contains "something for everyone to like."

"Environmentalists like it," he said. "Climate change deniers like it because it creates jobs."

While the idea may sound outlandish to some, it has already got \$850,000 in seed money from the federal government, raised more than \$2 million on a crowd-funding website and received celebrity praise.

Solar Roadways is part of a larger movement that

seeks to integrate renewable energy technology — including wind, geothermal and hydro power — seamlessly into society.

The Solar Energy Industries Association, a trade group based in Washington, D.C., described companies like Solar Roadways as "niche markets" in the booming alternative energy industry. "They represent the type of creative innovation that addresses design and energy, while showcasing the diversity of solar applications," said Tom Kimbis, a vice president of the association.

Brusaw said that in addition to producing energy, the solar panels can melt away snow and ice, and display warning messages or traffic lines with LED lights.

There are skeptics, who wonder about the durability of the panels, which are covered by knobby, tempered glass, and how they would perform in severe weather or were covered with dirt.

"It seems like something reasonable and something that is going to be very expensive," said Lamar Evans of the National Renewable Energy Association in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.



In this May 2014, photo provided by Solar Roadways, Scott Brusaw drives a tractor on a prototype solar-panel parking area at his company's business in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Associated Press

Another problem would be how to store the electricity that could be generated, Evans said.

The Brusaws have produced no estimates of how much the solar panels would cost, so the financial realities of their vision remain an unknown.

To demonstrate the concept, the company has created a small parking lot at its headquarters, using

108 solar panels. Vehicles have been driven onto the space, without damaging the panels, he said.

"We'll start off small with driveways and walkways," he said.

His wife Julie came up with the idea after watching "An Inconvenient Truth," the global warming movie featuring former Vice President Al Gore, Brusaw said. She remembered that

Scott had long talked about the concept of electric roads.

The U.S. Federal Highway Administration gave the Brusaws \$850,000 to develop Solar Roadways over the past few years, and build the prototype parking lot.

This year, they turned to the Indiegogo crowd-funding site to raise additional money and move to the next phase. Launched on Earth Day, the campaign got off to a discouraging start, Brusaw said.

Donations trickled in slowly, but two factors helped spread the company's vision: a viral YouTube video and celebrity mentions in social media. The video has more than 14 million views.

The floodgates opened when actor George Takei of "Star Trek" fame and the TV show "MythBusters" mentioned the company. They received donations from more than 45,000 people in 50 countries.

The money will enable the company to hire staff and begin production of more panels, Brusaw said.

"Once we've perfected everything, our ultimate goal will be highways," he said. □

LG Display unveils 18-inch flexible display

YOUKYUNG LEE

AP Technology Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— LG Display Co. has developed an 18-inch flexible display that can be rolled into the shape of a thin cylinder, a step toward making a large display for flexible TVs.

The South Korean display panel maker said Friday the flexible display has a resolution of 1200 pixels by 810 pixels and maintains its function when it is rolled up.

While that resolution would fall within the range of high-definition, images on the display would not look as sharp as the latest flat displays that boast ultra-high definition.

LG touted its technology as a significant advance, saying the cylinder's diameter would be just 6 centimeters (2.4 inches). It means LG Display could produce TVs that are larger than 50 inches diagonally and can be rolled up.

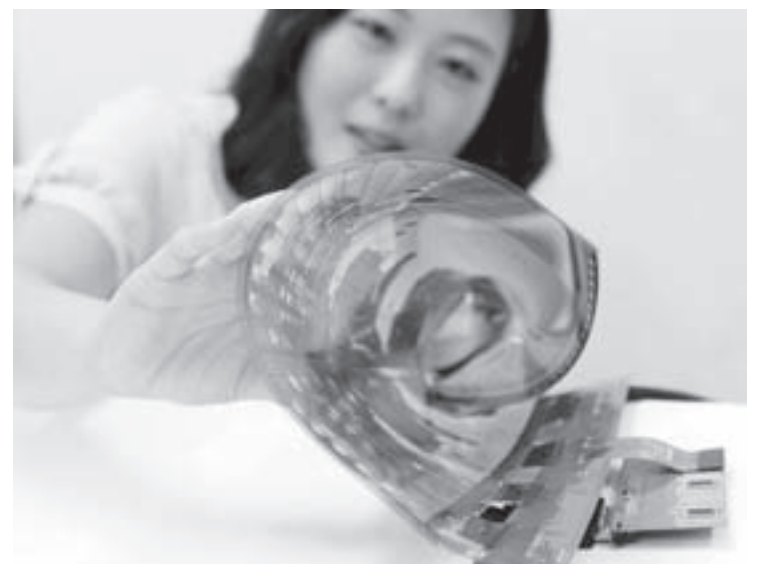
It is based on OLED technology, an advanced display that can show images in richer colors.

South Korean display makers are striving to gain an edge in flexible display technology as they see it as a way to set their products apart from their rivals in China, Taiwan and Japan. They also hope that the novel form would give consumers a reason to buy a new gadget.

Last year, Samsung Electronics Co. and LG Electronics Inc. each released a smartphone with a curved display to show off their technological prowess.

But it is unclear how the nascent technology would make handsets or televisions more useful. LG said its technology would make large TVs portable and it is up to the TV makers how they expand the use of the technology.

The South Korean company also unveiled a semi-opaque display. Though it is not as transparent as glass, that's the direction that the company is heading. LG named it the transparent display saying



In this July 9, 2014 photo released by LG Display Co., an employee at the company demonstrates an 18-inch flexible display, in Seoul, South Korea.

Associated Press

its transparency has improved from existing technology.

In the picture provided by LG, it is possible to see hands through the display. LG Display spokesman said it is possible to view images on the transparent display

from the front and from the back.

By 2017, LG aims to develop a flexible and transparent display that measures more than 60 inches diagonally, Kang In-byung, head of LG Display's R&D Center, said in a statement. □

Stocks stabilize, but end down for the week

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks stabilized on Friday and ended with a small gain, but it wasn't enough to prevent the market's biggest weekly drop since April.

Investors became more cautious this week as corporate earnings for the April-June period began trickling in. Worrisome news about a Portuguese bank also revived fears of another European debt crisis. That weighed on stocks, which had closed out the previous week at record highs.

Investors are now mulling whether the stock's market valuations are justified by the outlook for company earnings, or whether they have risen too far, too fast.

As investors try to make sense of the market, "we could be in a holding pattern," said Kristina Hooper, US Investment Strategist at Allianz Global Investors.

The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 2.89 points, or 0.2 percent, to 1,967.57 on Friday. The weekly decline of 0.9 percent was the biggest since April 11.

The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 28.74 points, or 0.2 percent, to 16,943.81. The Nasdaq composite rose 19.29 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,415.49.

On Friday, investors absorbed corporate news and earnings.

Lorillard, whose cigarette brands include Newport,

Old Gold and Kent, rose \$2.92, or 4.6 percent, to \$66.01. Lorillard and rival Reynolds American confirmed they are in talks to combine — a deal that would create a formidable rival to Altria Group Inc., owner of Philip Morris USA. Investors also pored over company earnings.

increase in the first quarter and 4.9 percent in the same period a year earlier, according to data from S&P Capital IQ.

While earnings are rising, stock valuations have also climbed.

The price-earnings ratio for S&P 500 companies, which measures a company's

to be able to find reasons not to panic."

Stocks opened on Thursday with a big loss as investors worried about the health of a holding company linked to Portugal's biggest bank. That revived memories of Europe's debt crisis. After falling heavily in early trading the market



Specialists Vincent Surace, left, and Michael Urizzo, second left, and traders Gregory Rowe, third left, and Peter Costa work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. U.S. stocks stabilized on Friday and ended with a small gain, but it wasn't enough to prevent the market's biggest weekly drop since April.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

Fastenal, a maker of industrial fasteners, fell the most in the S&P 500. Its stock dropped \$2.01, or 4.2 percent, to \$46.15 after reporting sales that missed analysts' expectations.

As U.S. companies start to report second-quarter results, investors expect more growth in profits. Earnings for S&P 500 companies are forecast to climb by 6.4 percent. That rise is bigger than the 3.4 percent

stock price compared to next year's forecast earnings, has edged higher to 15.7 from 15.1 at the start of this year and 12.6 at the start of 2013.

"With valuations where they are ... we are pleasantly surprised at the resilience of the market," said Colleen Supran, a principal of Bingham, Osborn & Scarborough an investment management company. "Investors still seem

regained much of its losses. In government bond trading, prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves in the opposite direction to its price, dropped to 2.52 percent from 2.54 percent. Oil had its biggest one-day drop since April, as Libyan oil appears poised to return to the market while global demand looks to be muted. Oil fell \$2.23, or 2.2 percent, to \$100.70. □

STREET BRIEFS

Halliburton forms new energy joint venture in China

NEW YORK (AP) — Halliburton said Friday it is entering its first joint venture in China that will use hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, to unleash energy. The Houston company, which provides drilling services to oil and gas operators, said it will create the joint venture with an affiliate of SPT Energy Group. The venture will focus on hydraulic fracturing and production enhancement services in Xinjiang, China. Halliburton said the companies have worked together for seven years. Hydraulic fracturing frees gas from deep rock deposits by injecting wells with chemical-laden water at high pressure. Halliburton Co. shares lost 59 cents to \$68.76 in midday trading. Its shares are up more than 55 percent over the past year.

Burberry investors overwhelmingly veto CEO pay deal

LONDON (AP) — Shareholders of luxury British fashion house Burberry have voted to reject a multi-million-pound pay package for the brand's new chief. Results of voting at Burberry's annual general meeting Friday showed that 52.7 percent of shareholders protested the earnings Christopher Bailey is expected to receive. Bailey was appointed chief executive in May on top of being the brand's chief designer. He received a one-time award of 500,000 shares worth some 7 million pounds (\$12 million) last year and also receives 1.1 million pounds (\$1.9 million) in salary, bonuses up to twice the salary and cash allowances. Friday's vote was non-binding but it was a rare revolt by shareholders over executive salaries. Chairman John Peace said he was disappointed and he would talk to investors to try to address their concerns. □

Amazon asks FAA for permission to fly drones

MAE ANDERSON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon is asking the Federal Aviation Administration permission to use drones as part of its plan to deliver packages to customers in 30 minutes or less.

The news sent shares of the nation's largest e-commerce company up nearly 6 percent on Friday.

The online retailer created a media frenzy in December when it outlined a plan on CBS' "60 Minutes" to deliver packages with

self-guided aircrafts that seemed straight out of science fiction. In a letter to the FAA dated Wednesday, Amazon said it is developing aerial vehicles as part of Amazon Prime Air. The aircraft can travel over 50 miles per hour and carry loads of up to 5 pounds. About 86 percent of Amazon's deliveries are 5 pounds or less, the company said. "We believe customers will love it, and we are committed to making Prime Air available to customers worldwide as soon

as we are permitted to do so," Amazon said in the letter. The FAA allows hobbyists and model aircraft makers to fly drones, but commercial use is mostly banned. Amazon is asking for an exemption so it can test its drones in the U.S. The Seattle company says its drone testing will only take place over Amazon's private property, away from airports or areas with aviation activity — and not in densely populated areas or near military bases. The FAA is slowly moving

forward with guidelines on commercial drone use. Last year, Congress directed the agency to grant drones access to U.S. skies by September 2015. But the agency already has missed several key deadlines and said the process would take longer than Congress expected.

So far, two drone models — Boeing and the Insitu Group's ScanEagle, and AeroVironment's Puma — are certified to operate commercially, but only in Alaska. □

Report: Whirlpool buys big stake in Italy's Indesit

BENTON HARBOR, Mich. (AP) — Whirlpool will pay more than \$1 billion for a controlling stake in Indesit, the appliance maker's counterpart in Italy. The deal announced Friday will put the U.S. company in possession of shares representing 66.8 percent of Indesit's voting stock. Whirl-

pool, which also owns Maytag, KitchenAid and other brands, will pay \$15.06 per Indesit share. "We believe this will ideally position us for sustainable growth in the highly competitive and increasingly global home appliance market in Europe," Whirlpool Chairman and CEO

Jeff Fettig said. Whirlpool has been working on strengthening its presence overseas. Last year it agreed to acquire a majority stake in Chinese appliance maker Hefei Rongshida Sanyo Electric Co. Ltd. for about \$552 million. The Benton Harbor manu-

facturer will be buying a 42.7 percent interest in Indesit Co. from Fineldo, an Italian engineering company, and a 17.6 percent stake from the Merloni family, which founded the company. Whirlpool said that it plans to finance the deal with available cash and debt

financing. The stock purchase agreements with Fineldo and the Merloni family are expected to close by year's end. Shares of Whirlpool Corp. closed at \$139.21 Thursday, down 11 percent for the year after hitting an all-time high in January. □

Tobacco firms Reynolds, Lorillard in merger talks

M. FELBERBAUM
AP Tobacco Writer

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Big Tobacco may soon get smaller.

The makers of Camel and Newport cigarettes said Friday they are in talks to combine two of the nation's oldest and biggest tobacco companies. A deal between Reynolds American Inc. and Lorillard Inc. would create a formidable No. 2 to rival Altria Group Inc., owner of Philip Morris USA. It also could spur a wave of consolidation in the tobacco business, shrink factories and workforces, and push prices for cigarettes higher even as smokers buy fewer of them.

The news follows months of speculation about the possible combination. In separate statements, the companies said no agreement has been reached and there's no guarantee one will be.

The merger would be "very positive for the global tobacco industry and could

be just the beginning of future transactions," Wells Fargo Securities analyst Bonnie Herzog wrote in an investor note.

monitor International. But raising prices and cutting business costs has kept the industry handsomely and reliably profitable.

through consolidation," Cowen analyst Vivien Azer said in an interview with The Associated Press, adding that the improvement

smokeless tobacco — for sales growth.

Reynolds markets Camel, Pall Mall and Natural American Spirit cigarettes, as well as the Grizzly and Kodiak smokeless tobacco brands. It has about 27 percent of the U.S. retail cigarette market. Reynolds, which is based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, also expanded its Vuse brand electronic cigarette nationally last month.

Reynolds' profit rose 35 percent to \$1.72 billion last year on revenue of \$8.24 billion, excluding excise taxes.

Lorillard, which was founded before the Revolutionary War and is the oldest continuously operating U.S. tobacco company, was spun off from Loews Corp. in 2008. The Greensboro, North Carolina-based company has about 15 percent of the retail market, bolstered by its flagship Newport cigarette brand, which commands 37.5 percent of the menthol cigarette market. □



Camel brand filters cigarettes from Reynolds American Inc., are displayed at a tobacco product store in Cranberry, Pa. Cigarette makers Reynolds American Inc. and Lorillard Inc. say they are in talks of a possible merger that would combine two of the nation's biggest tobacco companies. (AP Photo/Keith Srakocic)

That's partly because demand for traditional cigarettes is falling in the face of tax increases, smoking bans, health concerns and social stigma. U.S. cigarette sales fell about 2.6 percent last year to 285 billion cigarettes, according to market researcher Euro-

The companies also have cut costs to keep profits up, and the larger scale of a combined company could make future cost-cutting easier.

"If you take a look back historically, the way to drive margins in the U.S. tobacco industry has been

in profitability would come from cost-cutting in the near-term and manufacturing consolidations down the road.

The next step for tobacco companies is an increased focus on cigarette alternatives — such as electronic cigarettes, cigars and

Lockheed Martin in deal to cut costs of F-35s

CHRISTOPHER DREW
© 2014 New York Times

Lockheed Martin and two of its biggest suppliers agreed this week to invest up to \$170 million of their own money to help lower the high cost of the new F-35 fighter jets.

The deal lets the Pentagon shift a small part of the risk to the contractors as it grapples with continuing problems on the giant program, which could cost nearly \$400 billion for 2,400

planes. The Defense Department grounded the nearly 100 jets that have been delivered so far after the engine on one of them ignited on June 23 as a pilot tried to take off from Eglin Air Force Base in Florida.

The grounding will prevent the jet from making its international debut at an air show in Britain this week and could keep it from flying over the more prestigious Farnborough Interna-

tional Airshow in Britain next week.

The engine problems were the latest in a series of technical and production difficulties that have caused lengthy delays and nearly doubled the projected cost of the program.

Under Thursday's deal, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman and BAE Systems will invest up to \$170 million over three years on cost-saving measures, like changes in factory tooling

or production lines. In the past, the Pentagon provided the upfront money for such improvements.

Lt. Gen. Christopher Bogdan, who directs the F-35 program, said in a statement Thursday that the move was "a significant change in business approach within the F-35 program." The Pentagon penalized Lockheed Martin, the prime contractor, for past problems by withholding nearly \$60 million in fees

in 2010 and 2011. And since 2012, it has required Lockheed to share in the cost of fixing any flaws.

But given the enormous size of the program, this week's deal also seemed fairly modest and aimed at shoring up support for the plane in Congress and overseas, where several countries that helped finance the project are debating whether they can afford as many of the jets as they had wanted. □

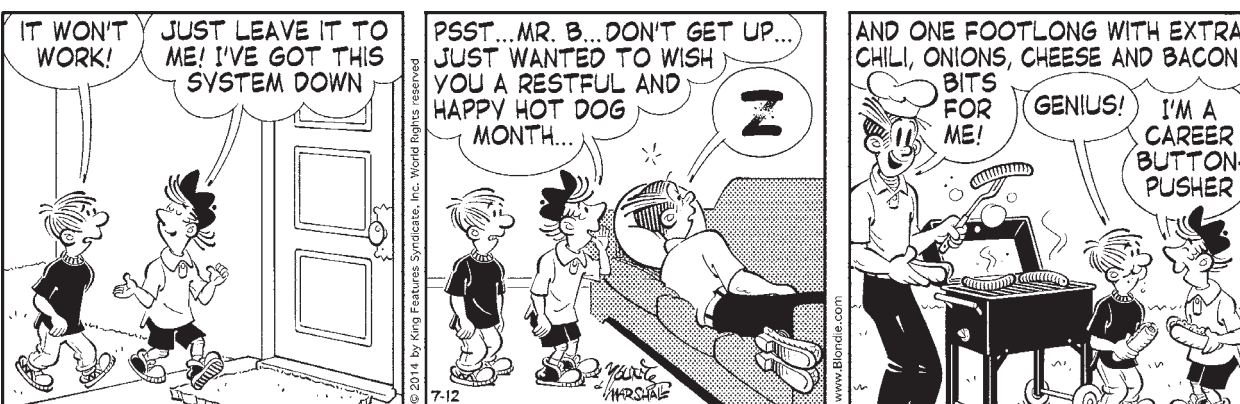
Mutts



6 Chix



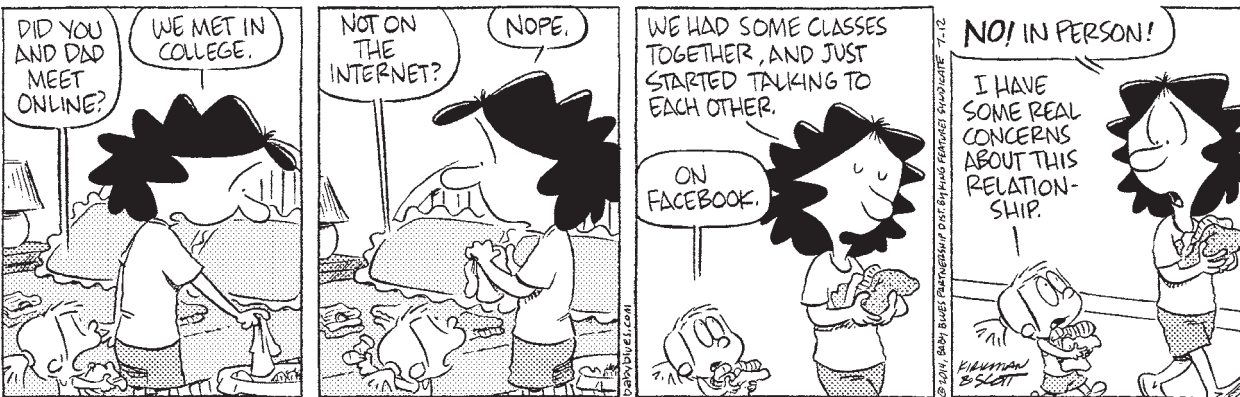
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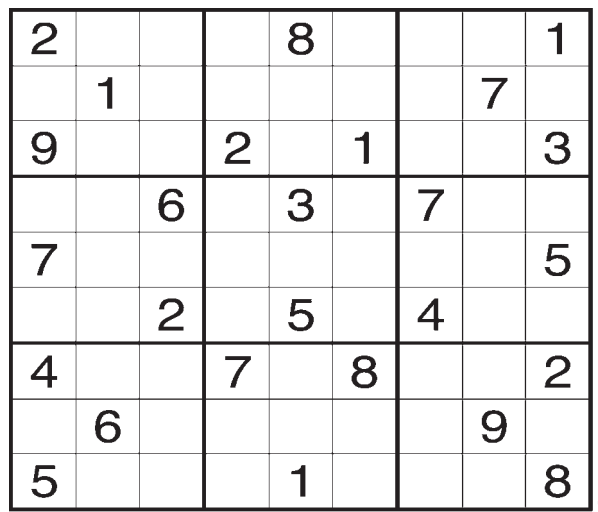
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Zits



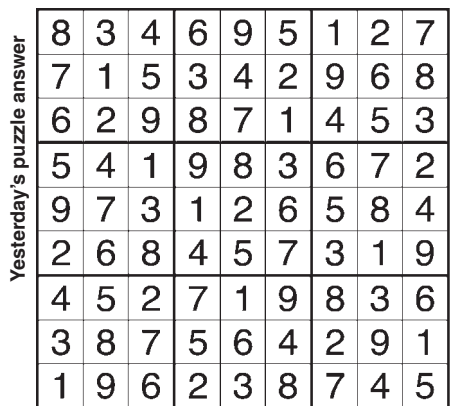
Conceptis Sudoku



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

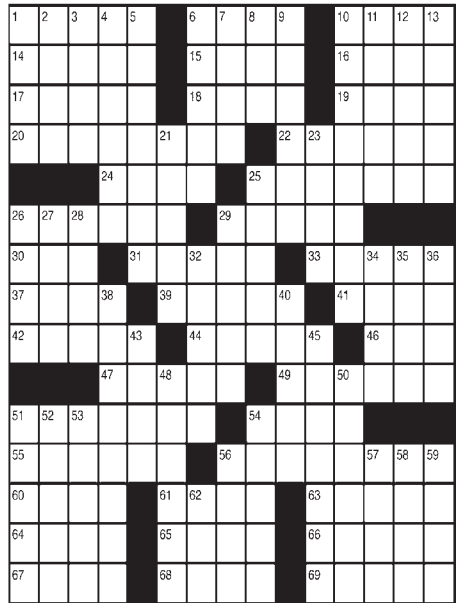
7/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.



ACROSS

- 1 Part of a
bookcase
6 Inquires of
10 Covered with
thick greenery
14 Sweetheart
15 Cut of pork
16 Bump __; meet
unexpectedly
17 Give a speech
18 Source of woe
19 Halt
20 Cleaned one's
hands
22 Clothing
24 Eden resident
25 Adept
26 Sickly facial
whiteness
29 Supermarket:
walkway
30 Hardware store
chain
31 Come together
33 Written work of
prose



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/12/14

Friday's Puzzle Solved



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7/12/14

- 3 Longoria and
Mendes
4 Deadly
5 Liberty
6 Scrapbook
7 ____ opera;
daytime serial
8 Relatives
9 Moves furtively
10 Sluggish
11 Up ____ now; yet
12 Put away for
later
13 Remained
optimistic
21 Shows
boldness
23 Scramble piece
25 Prolonged
attack
26 Treaty
27 Sore
28 Island garlands
29 Actress ____
Moorehead
32 Peeved
34 ____ up; absorb
35 Additionally
36 Certain votes

- 52 Narrow boat
53 1/16 of a pound
54 Young horses
56 Be petrified of
57 Thus
58 Cylindrical
storage tower
59 Ooze out
62 Garden tool

Continued from Page 8

Some are "underwater," with a mortgage higher than the home's value. Others may have so little equity that they can't afford to pay off the sales costs and put a down payment on their next property.

"We are in a uniquely difficult period for matching buyers and sellers," says Stan Humphries, chief economist at real estate data provider Zillow.

Home prices are expected to keep rising in the coming months, though at a slower pace than the double-digit gains that occurred earlier this year. Higher prices should lower the number of underwater homes and enable more people to sell.

But as the number of underwater homes falls, several studies suggest the impact could be offset by higher mortgage rates, which would increase the number of homeowners facing interest rate "lock-in." Most economists expect mortgage rates to rise later this year as the Federal Reserve ends its bond-purchase program, which is intended to keep borrowing rates low.

"Mortgage rate lock-in is

going to be a major challenge for the housing market going forward," Humphries said. "It is going to be a constant tug of war between buyers on one side ... and mortgage rate lock-in on the other side." Humphries forecasts that rates will reach 5 percent by the first three months of next year. That would mean those buying or refinancing now, at the current rates of about 4.1 percent, might never want to sell either.

A 2011 study by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York concluded that for every \$1,000 increase in a homeowner's annual mortgage payment, the likelihood that homeowner would sell fell as much as 16 percent. Paul Bernard, a recruiter in New York City, says the issue has begun to interfere with some of his clients' willingness to move for a new job. In one recent case, an employee at a large technology firm decided to postpone a job-related move to San Francisco partly because it would have forced him to take out a mortgage at a half-percentage point higher than his current one.

"The job market in some cases is less mobile than it used to be," he said. □

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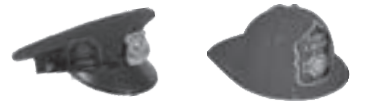
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TODAY
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How to reach us!

Downtown

Researchers try to save huge U.S. salamander

RICK CALLAHAN
Associated Press

CORYDON, Indiana (AP) —

With a long, slimy body and beady eyes, North America's largest salamander wouldn't top any cutest animal lists. The hellbender's alien appearance and mysterious ways have earned the big amphibian a bad reputation and unflattering nicknames ranging from snot otter to devil dog.

But hellbenders, which can grow to over two feet (0.6 meters) long, are facing troubles bigger than an image problem. The aquatic creatures found only in swift-flowing, rocky rivers and streams are disappearing from large parts of the 16 states they inhabit.

The rare amphibians breathe almost entirely through their skin, making them a living barometer of water quality because of their sensitivity to silt and pollution, said Rod Williams, a Purdue University associate professor of herpetology who's tracked Indiana's hellbenders for nearly a decade.

"These are animals that live up to 30 years in the wild, so if you have populations declining, that alerts us that there could be a problem with the water quality," he said.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is conducting an assessment of the eastern hellbender — one of two subspecies — to determine if it should be added to the federal endangered species list. The other subspecies, the Ozark hellbender, found only in Missouri and Arkansas, was declared endangered in 2011 after a 75 percent decline.



In this June 18, 2014, photo, Rod Williams, a Purdue University associate professor of herpetology, holds a hellbender that he and a team of students collected in southern Indiana's Blue River near Corydon, Ind., during a survey of populations of the rare amphibian.



Associated Press

Such a designation could free up federal money to protect their habitat and aid in their recovery. Hellbenders —the origin of the name isn't known— have been present on this continent for at least 10 million years and are found in hill-county rivers and streams in the area stretching from New York to Missouri to North Carolina.

"There's nothing else like them in North America," said federal biologist Jeremy Applegate, who's leading the eastern hellbender assessment. The wrinkly green and brown animals have a protective slimy coating and a flattened head to help

them slide between rocks, a rudder-like tail to propel them through currents and stubby legs and fingers for gripping rocks. Scientists aren't certain why the salamanders are disappearing. But dams have tamed some of the fast currents they prefer while sediment runoff from development has filled up the rocky nooks and crannies young hellbenders use for shelter. A fungus blamed for amphibian declines worldwide may also be a factor.

Researchers are urging landowners to plant trees and grasses along rivers to improve the water quality. They're also raising young hellbenders to be released into the wild to bolster the

population.

The St. Louis Zoo, in collaboration with the Missouri Department of Conservation, is raising about 3,000 young Ozark hellbenders from eggs. That's more than twice the 1,200 Ozark hellbenders believed to still exist in the wild, said Trisha Crabill, a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"It buys us time to figure out and address the threats," she said.

In Indiana, hellbenders once inhabited rivers and streams across much of the state's southern half but are now found only in the Blue River basin in heavily forested hill country along the Ohio River.

Recently, Rod Williams, the Purdue scientist who surveys hellbenders, and his students fanned out across the Blue River near the town of Corydon to look for the nocturnal creatures, which hide out during daytime beneath large flat stones.

Six hours passed before they hit pay-dirt — a feisty 21-inch (53-centimeter)-long, 1.25-pound (0.57-ki-

logram) hellbender that contorted and opened its mouth repeatedly as it struggled to escape. Two team members took a blood sample and collected some of its slimy coating — the trait that earned hellbenders the nickname "snot otter" — before inserting a microchip beneath its skin for future monitoring.

Williams' surveys have found adult hellbenders but no juveniles — the same worrisome trend seen in several other states. Even in a few areas where hellbenders' numbers appear to be stable, some locals wrongly believe they are poisonous or feed on young trout, when in fact crayfish account for almost all of the hellbenders' diet. Anglers sometimes kill them on sight.

Wildlife officials are trying to educate the public about the harmless creatures.

"If nothing else, if people don't appreciate the animal for itself, that it has value to the world, then it can serve as a messenger," Crabill said. "It can tell us what's going on in the river." □

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This Sept. 20, 2013 file photo released by Entertainment Weekly shows Becca Tobin at the 2013 Entertainment Weekly Pre-Emmy Party in Los Angeles. Associated Press

'Glee' star's boyfriend dead in Philly hotel

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — An autopsy has failed to pinpoint why the boyfriend of "Glee" star Becca Tobin died at a Philadelphia hotel.

Police say they were called to the Hotel Monaco on Thursday afternoon and soon pronounced 31-year-old Matt Bendik dead.

The city medical examiner's office says an autopsy Friday failed to determine how he died. More studies

will be done to try to determine both the cause and manner of death.

Tobin's manager, Ricky Rolins of Schumacher Management, says that "with respect to both the Bendik and Tobin families, there is no comment at this time."

"Glee" star Cory Monteith died of an accidental alcohol and drug overdose in a Canadian hotel last July. Tobin joined the "Glee" cast in 2012. □

Walsh gives up control to get back on television

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — To get back into television, John Walsh had to relinquish some of the control that he'd grown used to.

Walsh, who chased fugitives for 26 years, first on Fox's "America's Most Wanted" and a short postscript on Lifetime, returns Sunday on CNN (9 p.m. EDT) with a new show, "The Hunt." After years where he made his own program, this time the production team behind Anthony Bourdain's "Parts Unknown" was assigned to the show by CNN chief Jeff Zucker.

"The hardest thing is the letting go and the squashing of ego when you've been successful," Walsh, 68, said.

He measures success with statistics, saying his efforts to publicize crimes and encourage viewers to tip authorities contributed to the capture of 1,231 fugitives and the recovery of 61 missing children.

That scorecard, however, may have contributed to the downfall of "America's Most Wanted." Walsh said that in its last few years, he was obsessed with getting as many cases on the air as possible, to the show's detriment.

"It became overwhelming," he said. "We would have re-creations that were two minutes long. You never got a sense of the victims. You never got a sense of what was going on. We were old and tired."

"The Hunt" slows down and tries to tell a story. The first hour-long episode concentrates on the case of Shane Miller, a California man suspected of killing his wife and two daughters last year. Most of the CNN shows will have one case or two.

Working with Zero Point Zero Productions took a huge pressure off him, Walsh said.



This Oct. 12, 2009 file photo shows TV personality John Walsh at the premiere of "The Stepfather" in New York. Associated Press

Zucker, the longtime executive producer of the "Today" show before moving up in management, said he grew up in the business with Walsh. "The Hunt" is part of his effort to create destination nonfiction shows to sustain CNN during slow news periods.

"Part of what we're trying to do at CNN is do good storytelling and good work," he said. "I think John exemplifies both of them."

"The Hunt" is soon to announce a partnership with Facebook to promote Amber Alerts. Although Walsh is eager to use social media for his crime-fighting efforts, he said the vast majority of tips he generates is through television.

"I will always be the parent of a murdered child," said Walsh, whose efforts began after the 1981 kidnapping of his 6-year-old son Adam. "I will always be that angry, driven guy." □

Queen Latifah, Beyonce and Jay Z heading to HBO

FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Beyonce and Jay Z will co-star in an HBO concert special, and Queen Latifah will play legendary blues singer Bessie Smith in a movie for the network.

The music special will feature the married couple on their "On the Run Tour" performing in Paris. It will tape Sept. 12 and 13 at the Stade de France, featuring the superstars performing more than 40 songs, the network announced. It will air in September. Starring Queen Latifah, "Bessie" is written and directed by filmmaker Dee Rees ("Pariah"). Currently in production in Atlanta, it co-stars Michael K. Williams, Khandi Alexander, Charles S. Dutton, Oliver Platt and Mo'Nique. It premieres in 2015. HBO also said Mike Nichols will direct fellow Oscar winner Meryl

Streep in "Master Class." Drawing on the legendary master classes given by opera star Maria Callas, it is based on the Tony award-winning play of the same name by Terrence McNally, who will adapt his work for the screen. The announcements were made Thursday at the summer TV critics' tour, as was news from sister network Cinemax about its upcoming series "The Knick." This drama of a circa-1900 New York hospital has been rewarded with a second season prior to its Aug. 8 premiere. It stars Clive Owen, with both 10-episode seasons directed by Steven Soderbergh.

With HBO's freshman drama "True Detective" landing best-actor Emmy nominations on Thursday for both leads, Woody Harrelson and Matthew McConaughey, this question was renewed: Who will star in the



In this Tuesday, July 1, 2014 file photo, Jay Z and Beyonce perform on their "On the Run Tour" at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Mass. Associated Press

series' second season, which is expected to feature an entirely new cast?

Michael Lombardo, president of HBO programming, promised an

announcement soon, perhaps even next week.

One option being considered, he joked: "Doing the new season with puppets." □

'Brain Games' leads own genre at Nat Geo Channel

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Given that David Rees has written a book on how to sharpen a pencil, he seems the perfect choice to host a new National Geographic Channel series that elevates mundane activities into the subject of deep investigation.

So, for those inclined, Rees' "Going Deep" over the next two months will tell more than you ever thought you could know about digging a hole, tying a shoe, making ice cubes, shaking hands or throwing a paper airplane.

The series debuts Monday (10 p.m. EDT) following a new episode of "Brain Games." It's part of what has become a new programming genre at National Geographic that explains how the world works. Think of it as Geek TV, although the network works very hard to make shows that will appeal to the channel surfer.

"Brain Games" started it all. Host Jason Silva guides viewers through experiments designed to show how the brain perceives things like motion, space or time. The new season gets more abstract; tests measure compassion, anger, addiction and intuition.

A three-hour "Brain Games" special in 2011 did



This image released by National Geographic Channel shows Jason Silva, right, host of "Brain Games." Silva guides viewers through experiments designed to show how the brain perceives things like motion, space or time.

Associated Press

so well the network quickly ordered a series, which became National Geographic's most popular program, said Courteney Monroe, the network's chief executive.

"It remains unique on the television landscape," she said. "That was what kind of ignited it for us. As we watched the performance continue to grow, we said, 'What else can we get in this space?'"

Other shows were launched to appeal to the same taste. In "None of the Above," host Tim Shaw conducts experiments and

asks people to predict the outcome. "The Numbers Game" uses statistics, role play and experiments to answer questions like "are you a risk taker?" or "can you be a hero?"

One series soon to come, "Mind Over Masses," was inspired by YouTube clips. It explores ways to make people change behavior, like painting stairs to look like a piano so people use them more than an elevator. The upcoming "You Can't Lick Your Elbow" examines the human body. "Mapology," due next year, uses data analysis to uncover some

of the world's unexpected realities.

The network has also given the go-ahead to a miniseries about inventors, "American Genius," produced by the same company that made "The Men Who Built America."

It's enough to make the brain hurt.

Monroe needs to balance the interest in viewers unleashed by "Brain Games" with oversaturating the market, keeping in mind that competing networks will surely develop copycats. "We're always worried about that," she said.

Within the genre, "Going Deep" is a little risky, Monroe said. Rees is a former political cartoonist and a comedian who — honest! — maintains a side business sharpening pencils for money. He and the show have an edgy New York wit.

"He's quirky," Monroe said. "The show is quirky. The sensibility is quirky. I don't know if it's going to work. I love that we're trying it."

As the title suggests, "Going Deep" uses each show's question to take intriguing side trips. An episode on how to strike a match delves into the science of fire, which Rees finds not as haphazard as he thought. He finds a scientist with striking new designs for real airplanes to talk to on his show about paper airplanes, and is shown glacial ice hundreds of thousands of years old in his ice cube program. Producers flew in an expert on knots from Australia for the shoe-lace episode.

"I think that was our entire travel budget," he said.

Rees believes his show has found the right home in the geeky corner of National Geographic Channel.

"We had three networks saying, 'We're out there looking for a new 'Duck Dynasty,'" he said. "I said, 'This is not your next 'Duck Dynasty.'" □



In this Friday, June 20, 2014 photo, Ana Ortiz poses for a portrait in Los Angeles. Ortiz is the star of the Lifetime TV series "Devious Maids," the season finale of which airs Sunday night, July 13, 2014.

Associated Press

MIKE CIDONI LENNOX

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ana Ortiz was skeptical.

Yes, the project came from

two classy Hollywood acts: "Desperate Housewives" creator Marc Cherry and, serving as a producer, "Housewives" star Eva

Ana Ortiz is proud of her TV show, 'Devious Maids'

Longoria. And, yes, the show would be a lavishly filmed English-language production for an American TV studio starring five Hispanic women.

Ortiz said her initial reaction to the first script was: "Maids? It's got to be maids?"

So Ortiz, who had appeared on ABC's "Ugly Betty" (2006-2010), understood when some of the harshest initial criticism of "Devious Maids" came from the Latino community.

"The Latino community was the first out of the gate being really hard on us," the New York-born Ortiz, who is of Puerto Rican and Irish descent, said in a recent interview.

Now the soapy dramedy, which concludes its second season on Sunday (10 p.m. EDT), is among Lifetime's highest-rated shows. And the series is riding high on a recent acknowledgment: All five leads are nominated for Imagen Awards, to be presented Aug. 1 in

Beverly Hills, which "recognize and reward positive portrayals of Latinos in all forms of media."

"And so, to have these nominations from the Imagens, it is such a beautiful full-circle moment," Ortiz said. "I'm so proud for all the girls. And I'm really proud of the show."

Ortiz, 43, said Longoria has kept an eye on the scripts, assuring the five women are portrayed as three-dimensional characters and not Latino stereotypes. □

The Creative Climate



DAVID BROOKS
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In the current issue of *The Atlantic*, Joshua Wolf Shenk has a fascinating description of how Paul McCartney and John Lennon created music together. McCartney was meticulous while Lennon was chaotic. McCartney emerged out of a sunny pop tradition. Lennon emerged out of an angst-ridden rebel tradition.

Lennon wrote the song "Help" while in the throes of depression. The song originally had a slow, moaning sound. McCartney suggested a lighthearted counter melody that, as Shenk writes, fundamentally changed and improved the nature of the piece. Lennon and McCartney came from different traditions, but they had similar tastes. They brought different tendencies to the creative process but usually agreed when the mixture was right. This created the special tension in their relationship. They had a tendency to rip at each other, but each knew ultimately that he needed the other. Even just before his death, Lennon was apparently thinking of teaming up with McCartney once again.

Shenk uses the story to illustrate the myth of the lone genius, to show that many acts of genius are the products of teams or pairs, engaged in collaboration and "co-opetition." And we have all known fertile opposites who completed each other - when they weren't trying to destroy each other.

But the Lennon-McCartney story also illustrates the key feature of creativity; it is the joining of the unlike to create harmony. Creativity rarely flows out of an act of complete originality. It is rarely a virgin birth. It is usually the clash of two value systems or traditions, which, in collision, create a transcendent third thing.

Shakespeare combined the Greek honor code (thou shalt avenge the murder of thy father) with the Christian mercy code (thou shalt not kill) to create the torn figure of Hamlet. Picasso combined the traditions of European art with the traditions of African masks. Saul Bellow combined the strictness of the Jewish conscience with the free-floating go-getter-ness of the American drive for success. Sometimes creativity happens in pairs, duos like Lennon and McCartney who bring clashing worldviews but similar tastes. But sometimes it happens in one person, in someone who con-

tains contradictions and who works furiously to resolve the tensions within.

When you see creative people like that, you see that they don't flee from the contradictions; they embrace dialectics and dualism. They cultivate what Roger Martin called the opposable mind - the ability to hold two opposing ideas at the same time.

If they are religious, they seek to live among the secular. If they are intellectual, they go off into the hurly-burly of business and politics. Creative people often want to be strangers in a strange land. They want to live in dissimilar environments to maximize the creative tensions between different parts of themselves.

Today we live in a distinct sort of creative environment. People don't so much live in the contradiction between competing worldviews. We live in a period of disillusion and distrust of institutions.

This has created two reactions. Some monads withdraw back into the purity of their own subcultures. But others push themselves into the rotting institutions they want to reinvent. If you are looking for people who are going to be creative in the current climate, I'd look for people who are disillusioned with politics even as they go into it; who are disenchanted with contemporary worship, even as they join the church; who are disgusted by finance even as they work in finance. These people believe in the goals of their systems but detest how they function. They contain the anxious contradictions between disillusionment and hope.

This creative process is furthest along, I'd say, in the world of B corporations. There are many people today who are disillusioned both with the world of traditional charity and traditional capitalism. Many charities have been warmhearted but wastefully throwing money at problems, without good management or market discipline. Capitalists have been obsessed with the short-term maximization of shareholder return without much concern for long-term prosperity or other stakeholders. B corporations are a way to transcend the contradictions between the ineffective parts of the social sector and myopic capitalism. Kyle Westaway, a lawyer in this field and the author of the forthcoming "Profit & Purpose," notes that benefit corporation legal structures have been established in 22 states in the last four years. The 300 or so companies that have registered in this way, like Patagonia or Method, can't be sued if they fail to maximize profits in order to focus on other concerns. They are seeking to reinvent both capitalism and do-gooder-ism, and living in the contradiction between these traditions.

This suggests a final truth about creativity: that, in every dialectic, there is a search for creative synthesis. Or, as Albert Einstein put it, "You can never solve a problem on the level on which it was created." □



The Messy World of Smart Guns



JOE NOCERA
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The Andy Raymond rant is a thing to behold.

Raymond, the co-owner of Engage Armament in Montgomery County, Maryland, is one of the two gun dealers who, a few months ago, tried to sell the Armatix iP1 - aka, the first commercially available "smart gun" - to his customers. He thought that not only did he have every right to sell a smart gun, but that he was doing the gun world a favor by offering a gun that had the potential to expand the universe of gun owners. Instead, both Engage Armament and Oak Tree, a California-based gun dealer, backed away after receiving a torrent of hate mail and death threats from gun-rights absolutists.

In the rant, which he posted on his Facebook page, Raymond is sitting in front of an array of semiautomatic weapons. He has a bottle of what appears to be whiskey next to him. He acknowledges that he's been drinking. From time to time, he takes a puff on a cigarette. (I don't have a Facebook page, so I relied on excerpts from the rant that were shown on Chris Hayes' MSNBC show, "All In.") "How can the NRA want to prohibit a gun when we're sup-

posed to be pro-gun?" he says. "How hypocritical is that?" Then, after an angry, expletive-filled shout-out to those who sent him death threats, he changes direction. He denies ever selling an Armatix pistol. And then he says, "I thought my principles were correct, but maybe I was wrong." And he apologizes. And with one last gulp of whiskey, he is done.

Which is to say, he epitomizes the state of smart guns right now. The whole thing is a bit of a mess.

I last looked into smart gun technology about a year and a half ago, and what I saw then was a lot of ferment - and genuine excitement about the potential of smart-gun technologies. I found people who had been working on smart guns for years, like Don Sebastian of the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and newcomers to the field like Ron Conway, the Silicon Valley investor who was galvanized by the massacre in Newtown, Connecticut, and began backing a smart-gun effort. It was also the first time I heard about a New Jersey law that said that if smart guns became commercially available anywhere in the country, New Jersey gun dealers would be required, within three years, to sell only guns that had smart-gun technology. The idea, said Loretta Weinberg, the New Jersey Senate majority leader who sponsored the legislation 12 years ago, was partly to spur gun innovation. Instead, it held back innovation, as traditional gun manufacturers saw no incentive in investing in smart-gun technology. It was also vehemently opposed by the National Rifle Association, which viewed it, not incorrectly, as a gun control effort. Gun advocates mocked smart-gun technologies, claiming the "bad guys" with normal guns would have the advantage over the "good guys" with smart guns.

The New Jersey law was at the heart of the objections to Oak Tree and Engage Armament selling the Armatix smart gun. The fear of gun advocates is that if someone did start selling a commercialized smart gun, the three-year clock would start ticking in New Jersey.

When I spoke to smart-gun advocates this time around, I found a great deal of mixed emotions about the New Jersey law. Jonathan Mossberg, who runs something called the iGun Technology Corp. - and is an avowed gun advocate - told me that the New Jersey mandate "needs to be repealed." Stephen Teret, the co-director of the Center for Law and the Public's Health at Johns Hopkins University - and an expert on smart-gun technology - said that he thought the law would soon be irrelevant. "There will be a personalized gun sold very soon," he told me. "It will be the Armatix gun that people are talking about." He wouldn't tell me who the seller would be, however.

Weinberg acknowledged that her bill may have become an impediment rather than a spur to gun safety.

There is still a lot going on in smart-gun technology. Sebastian continues to plug away at a technology that would recognize an owner's grip, and only allow that person to use the gun. Ron Conway's group, the Smart Tech Foundation, just awarded a total of \$1 million to 15 grantees that are working on promising smart-gun technologies. As for Weinberg, she told me that she had approached the NRA as recently as two weeks ago and said she would try to get her law repealed if the NRA would promise not to block smart-gun technology from reaching the marketplace. "I said we might have some common ground here." The NRA did not reply.

What a surprise. □

In Northeast, It's Pipeline vs. Pastures

TOM ZELLER Jr.

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NORTHFIELD, Mass. - Standing on a dirt road outside his aging barn, Walter Jaworski, a former veterinarian turned cattle rancher in this rural part of north-central Massachusetts, points south across his 200 acres of forest and pasture to a nearby tree line. If things don't go his way, he says, that's about where a new natural gas pipeline will slice through his land on a 180-mile journey from central New York to a transmission hub north of Boston.

The project, proposed by the pipeline giant Kinder Morgan at a cost of \$2 billion to \$3 billion "or more," according to the company, is only in the earliest stages of consideration. But debate over its placement - and even its overall need - is in full swing, with anti-pipeline yard signs and heated public meetings.

Jaworski is just one of thousands of public and private property owners here who find themselves wedged between the mammoth shale gas supply being unleashed in states to the west, like Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia, and the increasingly insatiable market for the fuel in New England.

Added to the region's existing market for natural gas as a heating fuel, new demand for gas by electricity generators has created wintertime shortfalls and price spikes beyond previous experience - a situation that officials are anxious to address.

New England's governors have gone so far as to propose a tariff on electricity users to cover the cost of building new pipeline capacity.

But Jaworski, along with a growing number of critics of pipeline expansion in general, remains unmoved, arguing that there are less costly and intrusive ways to address the region's energy needs.

"They're saying that New England is in need of gas, but I understand that that's not necessarily true," Jaworski said. "We'd prob-

ably have enough if we did a little conservation."

There is little question that demand for natural gas here is rising fast. Tougher environmental regulations and low natural gas prices have combined to nudge many electricity generators to retire aging coal- and oil-fired plants in favor of cleaner-burning - and

erative linking the interests of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont - concluded that without change, the region's natural gas infrastructure would be under severe stress in coming years. Birud Jhaveri, a deputy commissioner with the Massachusetts Department

It has not been warmly welcomed in many cases.

At a meeting with Kinder Morgan representatives in the town of Montague, Massachusetts, this spring, Jonathan Mark Haber, a resident of nearby Warwick, asked why the company didn't seek to build along existing pipeline corridors, rather than digging

corridors. But he also said that in many instances, the pathways that opponents would prefer - like paralleling Interstate 90, which crosses the length of the state - did not make sense. "Routing along a highway or interstate corridor can present a higher degree of land disturbance than other, more remote ar-



Walter Jaworski, a cattle rancher trying to block a gas pipeline planned to run across his farmland in northern Massachusetts. Thousands of public and private property owners here find themselves torn between opposition to shale gas produced from fracking and the insatiable demand for fuel in New England.

(Tom Zeller Jr. via The New York Times)

cheap - natural gas, which now accounts for approximately half of the region's electricity mix, up from less than 15 percent in 2000, according to data from New England's grid operators.

But all of that gas moves through a network of transmission pipes largely built to serve the region's heating needs. When surges in winter demand drive prices to record highs, electricity generators must resort to expensive backup fuel sources like stored oil.

A report by the engineering consultancy Black & Veatch, commissioned last year by the New England States Committee on Electricity, or NESCOE - a coop-

of Energy Resources, called it a "crisis like no other."

A separate, industry-backed study, presented to NESCOE last winter, concluded that in order to bring New England's energy prices in line with neighboring regions, planners should contemplate an additional 2 billion cubic feet per day of pipeline capacity - an increase of about 50 percent over current pipeline capacity into the region, according to federal data.

It was around this same time that Kinder Morgan began seeking permission from property owners to conduct surveys in an effort to fine-tune the path of its proposed pipeline.

trenches through large tracts of greenfield - including his own property.

"To choose this section of Massachusetts for a pipeline - can you guarantee it will never leak?" Haber asked. "Can you guarantee that there won't be a tree falling on it, or another accident? This is, like, more precious to me than the gas you're providing."

Haber said he refused the company's survey request. Richard Wheatley, a company spokesman, said via email that a "significant portion" of the project, which is an extension of its Tennessee Gas Pipeline system, could be buried alongside existing pipeline or electricity transmission

eas, especially if there is a high population density," Wheatley said.

The company plans an initial permit filing this fall with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the ultimate arbiter of interstate pipeline projects. If approvals proceed as planned, Wheatley said, the pipeline could be delivering 600 million to 2.2 billion cubic feet per day of additional natural gas capacity to the region by late 2018.

Not all landowners oppose the pipeline. William Gaida, a retired railroad foreman, brokered a deal with the state's wildlife division to protect his 80 acres in Orange, Massachusetts, from development in 2002. □